

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. V.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1822.

[No. 227]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—273—

English Papers.

Edinburgh, May 4, 1822.—On Monday, on the motion of the Marquis of Londonderry, the House of Commons voted a Resolution, "empowering his Majesty to issue a grant of one million of Exchequer bills, to be advanced on such corn, the produce of the United Kingdom, whenever its market price shall be under 60s. a quarter, as shall be deposited in fit and proper warehouses in security." Lord Londonderry's speech, prefatory to his moving this resolution, out-mystifies all the mystified harangues of that noble person. It is throughout a mere tissue of puerilities, contradictions, and absurdities. His Lordship seems to be labouring under a confirmed hydrophobia of foreign corn! He assures us, that if the ports were thrown open, no man could tell the extent of the ruin that would ensue; and that the quantity of corn that would be forced upon us would be like a night mare oppressing the industry of the country for many generations. But the manner in which the Noble Lord makes out this conclusion is still more strikingly illustrative of the depth and clearness of his understanding. He tells us that the price of wheat in Marklane is at this moment rather under 50s. a quarter; that the average expence of importing a quarter of foreign wheat cannot be taken at less than 10s. or 12s.; and that the average price of wheat at Dantzio, for the last seven years, has been 48s. a-quarter. Thus, then, it appears that our English farmers are to be utterly ruined by foreigners sending corn to this country at an expence of 58s. or 60s. a-quarter, to be sold for 47s. or 50s. Truly this is an original discovery! And now that the Noble Lord has ascertained that corn naturally leaves a dear to go to a cheap market, we doubt not he will also discover, that water naturally flows from a lower to a higher level. It would be an insult to the sense of our readers to enter into any lengthened refutation of such self-evident and palpable absurdities. Every person who knows any thing whatever of the subject, knows that it is not the importation, but the exclusion of foreign corn that has involved the agriculturists in their present distresses. It is this exclusion which has forced up our average prices to twice the price of any other country, and which has, consequently, rendered exportation in a year of unusual plenty impossible, until the home price has fallen 100 per cent. below what the farmers estimate to be the lowest growing price! This is the true, and single cause of the present agricultural distress; and it is one which will not be in the slightest degree affected, much less removed, by the laboriously ignorant harangues, or by the pawnbroking expedients of the Noble Marquis. Nothing but the establishment of such a free trade in corn as will, by bringing our average prices nearly to the level of the prices of the Continent, enable our farmers freely to export in years when the crop is unusually luxuriant, can ever secure them against those ruinous fluctuations which, when they occur in a populous and highly manufacturing country like England, not only compromise the existence of many individuals, but deeply endanger the safety and tranquillity of the State. Mr. Huskisson, much to his credit, expressed his dissatisfaction with the proposal of his colleague, and moved a series of resolutions on the subject, which we shall give in our next.

Lord Londonderry's speech contained many other notable things besides the grand discovery, that foreigners would over-

load our markets "for many generations," with corn exported at a loss of 10s. or 12s. a-quarter. We had discussions on paper currency, banks, sinking funds, taxes, &c. &c. all huddled together in the most delectable confusion, and conducted in the same masterly style with the discussion of the corn laws.

Quod petiit spernit; repetit quod nuper omisit
Æstuat, et vitæ disconvenit ordinis toto;
Diruit ædificat, mutat quadrata rotundis.

The law enabling the country banks to issue notes under £5 expires in 1825, but Ministers have resolved to protract this term. They have also entered into a negotiation with the Bank of England, and have made a bargain with that Company, in which the latter agree to waive their right to prevent country banks being established with more than six partners, provided they do not come within sixty-five miles of London; and in return for the banks relinquishing this privilege, which was not worth sixpence, and advancing two millions at 3 per cent. as a loan to Government, who, we are told, has a surplus revenue of five millions, the monopoly of the Bank is to be extended from 1833 to 1843!

The other measure proposed by Lord Londonderry, is to grant a fixed sum for forty-five years in lieu of the charge on account of life annuities, &c. payable to half-pay officers, widows, &c. By this means a burden that would have been constantly decreasing until it had been totally extinguished in forty-five or fifty-five years, is to be distributed equally over that period. But though a considerable sum will thus be gained during the first years of the scheme, it is certain that a more than proportionable loss will be sustained during the latter period of its operation. It is, in fact, a measure bottomed on exactly the same sound principle as the *post obits* of spendthrifts and prodigals. Its object is to purchase a small temporary relief at the expence of a greater accession of ultimate misery.

Such are the principal topics treated in this *olla podrida* harangue. That the schemes of Lord Londonderry will not afford any relief to the distresses of the country is certain. Still, however, they will afford all the relief that the landlords deserve, or that we should wish to see them obtain. It is by their assistance that Lord Londonderry and his colleagues are enabled to continue their career of misgovernment: and it would be matter of extreme regret if they did not feel the consequences of their conduct. Lord Londonderry said, he would lay an even bet—a very statesman-like way of discussing such a subject—that the ports would not open in the course of the next year; and, he added, that he should feel strongly disposed to take the odds even for the year after that. We hope his Lordship will be successful in his gambling adventure. If he is, the reversion of his salary as Secretary for the Foreign Department will not sell for much. Two years more of low prices will render Gooch and Co. as determined Radicals as even Cobbett himself.

Our means, we regret to say, are by no means adequate to our wishes, or the demands made upon our columns. The Parliamentary proceedings for the last eight days have been full of interest, not only from the vital importance of the questions themselves, but, from the great talents displayed in discussing them. Since the days of Fox and SHERIDAN, no such speeches have been heard within Parliament as those delivered by Mr. Charles Grant, on the State of Ireland, Sir Francis Burdett, for

the Liberation of Hunt, and Lord John Russel, in moving for a Reform of Parliament. The last was truly worthy of the House of Russell; but it has been characterized sufficiently in another part of our paper. Mr. Grant's speech was statesman-like—candid—and honourable in a degree seldom to be found at the Ministerial side of the House, and not likely to be palatable there. What was Lord Londonderry to think of the admission, that "the great cause of the evil scheme of policy pursued by England towards Ireland, was produced by the government of Ireland being extrinsic of the people, and not sympathizing with them." "It had (Mr. Grant continued) been originally brought upon them, and down to a late period been supported by foreign force, or foreign fraud. In all governments, even in the most despotie, there was, and must be a tendency to adjust itself to the wishes of the people." After this, we shall surely hear no more of putting down opinion by force—of trampling on the wishes of the people—of governing only by means of a standing army. Nobody denies now, that that the laws have been habitually disregarded or prostituted in Ireland, and that in consequence the people have become lawless;—that a course of impolitic measures has been pursued there, by which the people have become miserable and desperate;—and that, if some change be not made for the better, property will soon become useless to its owners, and all classes be involved in one common ruin. This is the certain and ultimate result, though the period may vary according to circumstances, of constantly degrading and oppressing a whole people. The starvation which has reached some, and which stares one or two millions of our fellow-subjects of Ireland in the face, is a striking proof of the consequences of forcing a people to have recourse to the very lowest means of subsistence. On Monday last, Sir E. O'Brien stated in the House of Commons, that a great part of the south-west of Ireland was threatened with famine; and the statement was not denied, but admitted by the Irish Secretary! This subject, though fraught with instruction, is too painful to dwell upon.

Sir Francis Burdett's speech was exceedingly eloquent, displaying, as usual, a fine tone of moral feeling—an open manliness of temper worthy of an English gentleman—an elevation above personal and paltry considerations—an independence and a resoluteness for public good worthy of a Roman. Mr. Peel has never appeared so little in our eyes as on this occasion. His retrospect of Hunt's political life was nothing to the purpose; for it could not be denied that Hunt, whatever he was or had been, had suffered more than was intended or contemplated by the judges who pronounced his sentence. And the statements made respecting HUNT's private life were not only in bad taste, but calculated to do much public harm. He was not tried for immorality. There are few, perhaps, among those who deride him, whose private life would bear scrutiny in every respect; and, without either justifying his errors, or apologizing for any of his vices, we must say, that, placed as he has been, so thoroughly within the power of those who who were every way inimical to him, the wonder is that so little has been made out against him. What gave us most pleasure, however, in the course of this debate concerning HUNT, were the sentiments respecting judges and magistrates uttered by Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH, who had distinguished himself as a high judge in India, and whose leanings are undisguisedly in favour of all such functionaries. "One of the most important duties which belonged to a Member of the House of Commons, (observed Sir JAMES), was that of arraigning, with severity, the proceedings of a judge, if they seemed to be improper; and he could not help thinking, that it was unwise and undignified on the part of judges, or of their advocates in that house or elsewhere, to deprecate a fair discussion of their conduct. What was the conduct of judges before that house had a right to investigate their proceedings—before the press noticed their actions—before the public scanned their proceedings? They were like judges in all despotic governments, venal, corrupt, and arbitrary!" This is salutary doctrine. There can be no health, indeed, in any state, in which it is not only recognised, but acted upon. Nothing grieves us so much, because nothing can be so injurious to the character and effect of our laws, as for judges to display sore-

ness respecting the manner in which judicial proceedings are canvassed before the public. But it is gratifying to perceive, that, in Parliament, and among the highest and ablest of our public characters, considerable progress is making in liberality of opinion on all subjects of importance. Mr. Huskisson has just admitted, in the debate on Lord Londonderry's project for relief of the Agricultural Distress, "that this system was a bad one—that it was a bad system growing out of a bad course of policy." Mr. Grant, as we have seen, also allowed the political system observed towards Ireland to have been mischievous in the extreme: and we are not without hope of its being soon admitted, that the whole course of policy pursued by Ministers for the last thirty years has been radically vicious. The mania caught at the French Revolution—the dread of the people, is abating. It is now beginning to be seen, that the mass of the people are sound in their moral sentiments—that their feelings ought to be respected—and that they are seldom wrong, for any length of time, in their judgments on men and measures.

The French papers, some days ago, stated, that the Police had gone to the lodgings of Mr. J. A. Bachon, a literary gentleman, the translator of Mr. Stewart's Discourse, and in his absence had forced his doors, picked the locks of his drawers, and examined his private papers. The alleged object of this domiciliary visit was to discover whether he was the author of the French Verses inserted lately in the MORNING CHRONICLE, of which a translation will be found in another column. With this fact we wish to connect another, as illustrative of the spirit of the French Government.

Mr. Girardin, now a deputy, and lately prefect of a department stated in the Chamber, that a secret establishment, with thirty clerks, was attached to the Post-Office, for the express purpose of opening private letters. The systematic mode of conducting business in this concealed office, shews the grand scale of its operations. There are close fires to melt wax, and cauldrons of boiling water to loosen wafers; there are engravers employed in copying seals; and persons whose business is to decipher the letters of those who try to elude the inquisition of this villanous board by writing in cypher. When we add to these practices that of stationing police spies in coffee-houses and places of public resort, and of bribing the domestic servants of a suspected individual to betray his secrets, we have a picture of a state of society the most base and revolting. We see a government, with great professions of morality and religion, violating habitually the confidence of private intercourse, supporting itself by practices for which an individual would be brought to the gallows, and spreading fraud, falsehood and treachery through that society for whose benefit it is created. Who could bear that the letters in which he lays open his inmost thoughts, perhaps, his errors and weaknesses to a wife, parent, or confidential friend, should be exposed to the coarse and brutal jests of men whose minds must be debased by their occupations? The entering a man's house and seizing his private papers is still more flagitious than opening his letters. Governments have to do with an individual's words and deeds, not with his thoughts; and unpublished papers differ from mere thoughts only in form. To the disgrace of our law, the practice of searching a man's private papers to procure evidence against himself is allowed in some cases. But in France every person's bureau is at the mercy of the police with or without the allegation of a crime. Let mankind judge what sort of government it must be which renders the most natural and innocent acts a source of dagger and insecurity,—which converts the private exercise of the powers of thought—the pleasures of social intercourse—the use of letters themselves, the noblest gift of civilization, into a snare and a curse.—*Scotsman*.

Mr. Denman.—We are greatly pleased to find that the Common-Council of London have, by a majority of twelve votes, (131 to 119) elected Mr. Denman Common-Sergeant for the city—disregarding the routine by which, of late, certain persons who purchased a pleadership had got into that office. This is the best mode by which the public can express their approbation of the

independent and upright conduct of a public man. It is desirable on all occasions, when it is practicable, to unite interest with honour; and what is given by the people, as a reward for patriotic exertions, is always honourable both to the giver and receiver. It is of immense consequence also to fill as many judicial offices as possible with those who have a genuine sympathy with the people. There is no other way, in so far as we know, of preserving purity and spirit in the administration of justice; for what would justice be if administered by none but parasites! Talents do force their way upwards—even on the crown; but it is well to have some means of comparing the conduct of those holding crown appointments, with the conduct of those who owe their situations to the people.

Value of Scotch Medical Diplomas.—The proceedings taken against a Mr. Roby, a young man of acknowledged talents, for practising without a certificate from the Apothecaries Company of London, do not appear to us to be very creditable to medical persons on the south of the Tweed; and if we are not misinformed, other prosecutions are threatened against gentlemen who have passed as Surgeons in Edinburgh. This seems to be a matter of some importance to our medical school. We have not a copy of the act (passed within these few years) on which these prosecutions are founded; but it would surely be right in our Medical Professors to look at the provisions of the act, and consider how far it touches their interests, or trenches on the rights secured to Scotland at the time of the Union. It was, we believe, a general opinion that, after passing as a surgeon at Edinburgh, a young man might practise in any part of England; but now it would appear that, if he was not actually practising on or before 1st August 1815, he must obtain a certificate from the Apothecaries Company. We are speaking, we acknowledge, somewhat in the dark; but it is time that young men who study here should know what rights a medical diploma confers upon them, and whether any, and what course of study in Edinburgh will qualify them for practising in England.—*Scotsman.*

Bow Street.—On Monday, (April 22) Edward Desmond and John Davis were charged with being concerned in the commission of a very audacious robbery in the house of Mr. Russell, Solicitor, Carey-street.—It appeared that the house was securely fastened on the night of Sunday, with the exception of a window in the office, which was only shut down. About two o'clock on Monday morning, the Rev. George Stokes, a clergyman lodging in Mr. Russell's house, was awoken by a noise, and saw four men standing by his bedside, one of whom had a pistol. They told him to be quiet or he would be silenced, and after asking one or two questions, three of them went down stairs, and Mr. Stokes heard them moving about. About ten minutes had elapsed, when Mr. Stokes determined upon attempting to overpower the man who stood guard over him, and making a sudden spring, he seized the fellow, and a desperate scuffle ensued. Mr. Stokes knocked him down, but he recovered, and the struggle was resumed. It terminated finally in Mr. Stokes getting his antagonist to the top of the stairs, and pushing him down with great force. The noise of this scuffle alarmed the other three, as Mr. Stokes heard them run down to the bottom of the house. The noise also alarmed other persons in the house. A general outcry was raised, the house and adjoining premises were diligently searched, and the prisoner Desmond was found in the house, and Davis was discovered concealed underneath a table in a yard belonging to Mr. Platt's house in Boswell-court, to which he must have made his escape by the office window. On searching about, a watch and some other things stolen were discovered scattered about, as if dropped in the hurry. A dark lantern and other implements of housebreaking were found. There had been stolen from Mr. Stokes's room a gold watch, and from other parts of the house about 50*l.* in money, a silver tea-pot, and various other articles of plate. Among the property stolen were 20*l.* belonging to the maid-servant. The prisoners declined saying any thing in their defence, and were fully committed for trial.—They were both very young, and Sir R. Birnie said, he could not help regarding them with commiseration. They were both bookbinders, were both apprenticed to masters who turned out to be men of bad character; and they had both

had their indentures cancelled, and were turned loose upon the world.—The prisoner Desmond, at the mention of these circumstances, burst into tears. (Desmond and Davis were on Thursday (April 25) tried and found guilty of the robbery, at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to be hung. Before the Recorder passed the awful sentence, Desmond fell convulsed into the arms of the Officer!)

The Deserted Son.—The youth, whose case we mentioned as having applied to the Magistrates for relief, in consequence of his father refusing to acknowledge him, attended again on Tuesday (April 23); and Sir Richard Birnie handed over to him a Bank note, which he had received for his use from a gentleman in Liverpool, who had read his story in the papers.—Sir Richard Birnie has received a number of communications from persons of respectability, all of them corroborative of the facts stated by the unfortunate youth.

London, Tuesday Evening, May 7, 1822.—Yesterday the Earl of Liverpool had an audience of the King.

Prince Leopold has been detained much longer abroad than he intended, by his attentions to his mother during a severe illness. His Royal Highness when at Naples was much indisposed, so much so that he was confined to his room for several days. The Prince is now on his way back to England. During his absence his large and princely establishment, including the attendants and domestics of his late beloved Princess, with the exception of the amiable Colonel Addenbroke, lately deceased, has been kept up the same as when he was in England. The necessary and unavoidable repairs of the mansion house, at Claremont, have been completed at an unexpected expense of 15,000*l.* the dry rot having been discovered to have gotten into the whole building.

The Revenue from the 5th of April up to Saturday night is said to be 300,000*l.* more than the corresponding month of last year.

In the matter of John Comerley, for a contempt of Court, in the Court of Chancery, the party was discharged this morning on his making a promissory affidavit never to interfere with the Infant Ward of the Court again.

Mr. F. Buxton stated last night in the House of Commons that the brewers of the metropolis have reduced the price of porter one halfpenny a pot.

Petitions to Parliament are signing in Bath, praying for a tax on the property and income of persons residing abroad.

The Governor of Dover has received directions to make the necessary preparations for the reception of the Prince and Princess of Denmark. The age of the Princess is, we understand, eight-and-twenty. The illustrious visitors are expected to reach the British shores in the course of the present week.

Paper Currency.—The idea of returning to a paper currency as a cure for the present Agricultural Distress—of endeavouring to remedy one evil by plunging into another, of which we have already had sufficiently painful experience, strongly reminds us of a certain exploit of great nursery fame:—

"There was a man of Thessaly, and he was wonderous wise,
He jumped into a quick-set hedge and scratched out both his eyes,
And when he found his eyes were out, with bitter grief and pain,
He jumped into another hedge to scratch them in again."

Ireland.—Miss Wensley having escaped from Captain Rock and the White Boys in Ireland is now performing at the theatre of Bristol, her native town.

Northumberland House.—Northumberland House will not be fit for occupation till the spring of next year. There will be ten rooms on the floor, not to be equalled in Europe for size and splendour. The old House is nearly gone. The front, next the Thames, will be a surprising specimen of taste in architecture. The banquetting-room will be a prodigiously grand structure. The drawing-room will be all after the Grecian style. All the apartments will be hung with English silks of the richest fabric, and the carpets will come from Axminster.—*Globe.*

Home.

"Indeed, when we step out of domestic life in search of felicity, we come back again disappointed, tired, and chagrin'd. One day passed under our own roof is worth a thousand in any other place. The noise and bustle, or, as they are foolishly called, the diversions of life, are despicable and tasteless, when we have once experienced the real delights of our own fire-side."—LORD ORRERY.

How dear their Home, whom love has taught to know,
From that blest source what real transports flow,
Home! 'tis the name of all that sweetens life;
It speaks the warm affection of a wife,
The lisping babe that prattles on the knee
In all the playful grace of infancy,
The spot where fond parental love may trace
The growing virtues of a blooming race:
Oh! 'tis word of more than magic spell,
Whose sacred power the wanderer best can tell;
He who, long distant from his native land,
Feels at her name his eager soul expand:
Whether as patriot, husband, father, friend,
To that dear point his thoughts, his wishes bend;
And still he owns, where'er his footsteps roam,
Life's choicest blessings centre all—at home.

Marmion.

The following exquisitely beautiful passage of Marmion was in circulation before the poem was published, and as it varies in some respects from the printed copy, it will be esteemed a curiosity among the devotees of the illustrious author.

Harp of the north! that moulder'd long hath hung
On the witch elm that shades Saint Fellan's spring,
And down the fitful breeze its warblings flung
Till envious ivy did around the cling,
With her green ringlets muffling every string,
O, wizard harp! still must thine accents sleep
Mid rustling leaves and fountains murmuring,
Still must they sweeter sounds their silence keep,
Nor bid a warrior smile, nor teach a mind to weep.
Not so in ancient days of Caledon,
Was thy voice mute amid the fatal crowd,
When lays of hopeless love or glory won
Acquiesced the fearful, and subdued the proud.
At each ac-coding pause was heard aloud
Thine ardent sympathy, sublime and high,
Fair dames and crest-ed knights attentive bow'd,
For still the burden of thy minstrelsy
Was knight-hood's dauntless deed, and beauty's matchless eye
O, wake once more! how rude soe'er the hand
That ventures o'er thy magic maze to stray,
O, wake once more! though scarce thy skill command
Some feeble echoing of thine earlier lay:
Though harsh and faint, and soon to die away,
And all unworthy of thy nobler strain,
Yet if one heart breathe higher at the nobler way,
The wizard note has not been touched in vain,
Then silent be no more! Enchantress, wake again!
Sweet Teviot, on thy silver tide,
The glaring bale-fires blaze no more,
No longer steel-clad warriors ride
Along thy wild and willow'd shore,
Where'er thou wind'st by dale and hill
All, all is peaceful, all is still,
As if thy waves, since Time was born,
Since first they roll'd their way to Tweed,
Had only heard the shepherd's reed,
Nor started at the bugle horn.
Unlike the tide of human time,
Which, tho' it change in ceaseless flow,
Retains each grief, retains each crime,
Its earliest course was doomed to know,
And darker as it downward bears,
Is stain'd with past and present tears.
Low as that tide has ebb'd with me,
It still reflects to memory's eye
The hour my brave, my only boy
Fell by the side of great Dundee.
Why, when the volleying minstrel play'd
Against the bloody Highland blade,
Why was not I beside him laid?
Enough! he died the death of fame,
Enough! he died with conquering Græme.

The Cordou Sanitaire.

[A Translation of the French Verses inserted in the MORNING CHRONICLE of the 12th of April, and for which all the copies of that Paper in Paris were seized.]

A SPANIARD to our soldiers cried,—
('Twas for a Pyrenean brow,
In tones of conscious power and pride)—
"Where is your country's freedom now?"
He checked their tale of days gone by,
Of victories won,—but now forgot:—
There is but one true victory,
'TIS TO BE FREE,—and you are not."—
He came from Spain:—His steps advance;
And these reproaches reached their ear:—
"What, warriors, have you gained for France
By conquests that have cost so dear?
"In History's weary age to see
"Your names with barren wreaths inwrought:—
"There is but one true victory.
"TIS TO BE FREE,—and you are not."
"A King, enshroued in Gothic rust,
"With distaff sceptre, crazy, weak,
"Shall he crush Frenchmen into dust,
"And wave a rod a child might break?
"Talk not of all your fame to me,—
"It is not worth a word, a thought;
"There is but one true victory.
"TIS TO BE FREE,—and you are not.

Our Soldiers then indignant rose,
And flashing brands implied revenge:
Loud cried the warrior, "Know your foes;—
"No blood of mine your soil should tinge!
"If ye want victims,—let those be
"The victims, who your chains have wrought;—
"There is but one true victory,
"TIS TO BE FREE,—and you are not."

Even as the lightest clouds disperse,
So is our warrior's anger gone;
They clasp their friend—the universe
Hears thus their intermingling tone:—
"O yes! we swear, that Liberty
Shall pass the Loire—amidst the cry,
We swear, we swear, by Victory,
Freemen to live, or freemen die!"

And then, to form our badge of fight,
A Colonel gave his robe of blue,
And on the hated Lys of white
Open'd a vein and stained it thro';
And, as a light-house splendidly
Shines from some cliff sublimely high,
Our flag shall wave—for victory,
Or pleased to live, or proud to die!

EXAMINER.

TO ARGOS.

—Fluctu maris remiscitur Argos.

Argos! that spirit which fired thee of old,
When the glory of Greece was high,
The soldiers of Freedom again behold
A light in the stormy sky!
They come where thou lead'st—they rally round thee,
The Red Cross is floating o'er them,
And they swear by that sign that their sons shall be free,
As their proud fathers were before them.
The oath shall be kept, and the Musselman's power
Is setting in blood, as it rose,
And freedom shall hallow victory's hour
O'er the grave of her fiercest foes.
Then, Argos! advance thy spear of flame
With the arm of thy former glory,
That Greece may no longer droop with shame,
O'er the page of her beautiful story!
How long have the heroes who graced thy land
Looked down through the mist of years,
And asked if a cause so noble and grand,
Should die off in chains and tears!
But the shout of the battle answers from thee,
While revenge waves her blood-stain'd token,
Proclaiming that Argos has willed to be free,
And the bondage of Greece is broken!

MISCELLANEOUS.

—277—

South Sea Company.

A Meeting of the proprietors of South Sea Stock, convened by public advertisement, was held on Friday, (May 10), at the Company's house in Treadneedle-street, for the purpose of considering the expediency of recommending to the Court of Directors to contract with government for paying into the Exchequer, during the next 45 years, the sums of money specified at an interview which took place on the 7th inst. between Lord Liverpool and Mr. Vansittart on the one hand, and certain of the Directors on the other.

At one o'clock Mr. C. BOSANQUET, the Sub-Governor, having been called to the Chair, observed, that he came now without any bias on his mind, to lay before them the view and principles on which the scheme appeared desirable; and if not approved there would at once be an end of the speculation. According to the plan now proposed, comprehending all the ordinary contingencies of life insurance, as a large portion of the Company's stock was in the hands of trustees or parties who might be unwilling to engage in the transaction, those holders alone who should subscribe their names in a book, or by writing signify their assent, were to be concerned in the undertaking; the rights and interests of all others remaining secure and unaffected. Should they agree to this proposition, it was desired on the part of Government, that an immediate deposit of 500,000*l.* should be made, and if not made in money or Exchequer Bills, Government would be satisfied with the transfer of so much of their own stock at 3*l.* per cent. It was also proposed, that when the contract was finally entered into, the first regular payment with their own money should be in April next, and that similar payments should be continued till the whole sum of 5,000,000*l.* was vested as security in the hands of Government. To these conditions some other points had been added that day, in a conference at the Treasury. The periodical payments or instalments commencing in April, 1823, it was proposed should continue half-yearly; and instead of a deposit with the Bank, stock might be consigned to trustees in the first instance. The question for them now to determine was, whether it was for their interest to engage in a contract resting on the following primary and leading principles:—No holder of South Sea Stock was to be affected in the slightest degree by the profits or loss eventually resulting from the transaction, without signifying his assent to it by the inscription of his name. Those individuals, therefore, who might have passed through the more speculative period of their lives, and felt averse to encounter the risk of so considerable an undertaking, would have nothing to apprehend from its consequences. Whether the whole of their present capital stock were subscribed or not, an addition of new stock would be necessary, and this, though the amount of it was not yet fixed, it was proposed to create at an interest of 4 per cent., the old now bearing an interest of 3*l.* The additional half per cent. arose out of a sum of 21,000*l.*, allowed by Government, in consideration of the Company bearing the charges of management, and finding a house in which the official business might be hereafter transacted. It might possibly be deemed expedient, in bringing the project to maturity, that the subscribers should be restrained from increasing the dividend beyond their actual profit; but whenever the annuities should rise three years' purchase, there would be a profit of 1,400,000*l.*, which might, if thought prudent, be divided amongst them. This, however, was matter to be regulated and limited by the Act of Parliament. But it was obvious that, by sparing one year's interest on that amount, a profit of one per cent. would be secured. A very important part of the scheme was that, undoubtedly, for raising 3,500,000*l.* by the creation of so much new stock, or for a loan of so much as should render the whole sum subscribed equal to 5,000,000*l.* This sum it was intended to raise by instalments, to be paid as follow:—

- 15 per cent. as soon as the contract is made;
- 25 per cent. on or before Jan. 12, 1823;
- 30 per cent. on or before July, 12, 1823;
- 30 per cent. on or before Jan. 12, 1824.

It was evident that the New Annuities, as they extended over a longer period, must be of superior value to Long Annuities; but the circumstances of the present times rendered an extensive speculation of this nature more desirable than ever. A disposition might be generally observed for bringing the contingencies of life within the principles and calculations of life insurance, and of investing property in that species of employment. He might likewise mention, that part of the plan was, that old stock should be transferred at par, and the option of contributing the sum to be raised, should be first given to the proprietors of old capital. If the sum required should not be so subscribed, the subscription might be thrown open to the public, on such terms as the Court of Directors should determine. As many questions would doubtless be put by the Proprietors, the best course, perhaps, would be not to proceed further at this moment in stating details, but wait in readiness to afford such explanation as would be sought for. He concluded, with submitting the following Resolution, which might be discussed or varied at their pleasure:—"That they do recommend to the Directors to un-

dertake, on receiving an adequate commission, the payments specified by the Earl of Liverpool and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and they are hereby empowered to treat with them accordingly."

Mr. CAPEL seconded the motion.

Mr. MOCATTA observed, that finding that they stood alone in this negotiation, he thought it incumbent on them to be circumspect (*hear, hear*). He had himself no disposition either for or against the measure, but as the subject was perplexing and difficult, it would be the safer course, in his opinion, to adjourn for two or three days, and consider it as it now stood.

The CHAIRMAN observed, with regard to the commencement of the new interest, that was a point which had not yet been fully considered. It might be in January next; but as to the scrip, that would not bear interest till the whole matter should be arranged. There were many secondary considerations, which had better be postponed till a future meeting.

Mr. MOCATTA explained.

Mr. LAWFORD stated an instance of his having sold the same loan annuity, at twenty-eight and at fourteen years' purchase.—This circumstance alone might indicate the nature of the present undertaking.

An individual with whose name we are not acquainted testified much anxiety as to the issue of the concern. The payments to Government would not, according to his calculation, fall short of 90,000,000*l.*

Mr. D. MOCATTA said, every great undertaking must be attended with some risk, and he did not think this greater than was involved by the nature of the transaction. He did not like to hear it held out to trustees that it might be prudent in them to abstain from it; he for one thought it desirable.

Mr. LAWFORD begged to declare absolutely that he would have nothing at all to do with it.

The CHAIRMAN re-stated, that unless the Gentleman should signify his assent to the contract his rights would continue the same, and he would receive exactly the same dividend. He might here observe, that the difference between a corporate body like themselves, and a joint-stock company, was, that the former were only liable for corporate debts to the extent of the sums subscribed.

Mr. HIGGINS hoped that the utmost caution would be used, and wished to know how it was proposed to employ the surplus sum that would be raised, if this scheme were carried into effect, after the 5,000,000*l.* were completed?

The CHAIRMAN said, that nothing must be looked upon as hitherto finally arranged. The loan might be thrown open to public competition, and if their capital was doubled, it might be found wise to reserve a million for some of the public companies.

Mr. Alderman HEYGATE thought they were called upon too early for a decision. As a Member of the Company, he should cordially support the undertaking, but in a national point of view he regarded it as most unwise.

It was here observed by an individual, that the real property belonging to the old Company was said to be considerable, and he wished to learn how that was to be disposed of.

The CHAIRMAN remarked, that the Proprietors got interest for their capital, but as to any large balance due to them, it was rather an assumption. It might, however, possibly amount to about 215,000*l.*

Mr. HIGGINS agreed that they would not have to encounter the same risk as other companies, in the event of any depression of their stock in the market. But would not their whole property be assets for the fulfilment of a contract like this?

The CHAIRMAN said, all must depend on the provisions of the Act which would be passed to give effect to the undertaking, if agreed upon.

Mr. HIGGINS dwelt on the magnitude of the transaction, and did not think it was yet adequately contemplated in all its parts. Although their capital stock was in amount 3,500,000*l.* and actually bore an interest of 3*l.* per cent., yet this was not like capital of so much real value. By this plan it was proposed to double this stock, by issuing bonds, which rendered the speculation enormous, and by which they might be ruined in twenty-four hours.

The CHAIRMAN observed, that no individual need sustain any great responsibility, and it might be best at once to take the sense of the Meeting.

The question was then put, and the numbers appeared nearly equal pro and con.

It was then inquired, how far the words of the Resolution extended?

The CHAIRMAN stated, that they only empowered the Court of Directors to treat, and not to contract; but it was for the Proprietors to consider, whether they would not avoid a probable difficulty, by substituting or adding the latter word?

After some desultory conversation, in which Mr. MOCATTA complained that the subject was not yet sufficiently understood, the words "to contract" were embodied in the Resolution. An Amendment was moved by Mr. DODD for opening books in which names might be inscribed, and for calling a General Court on Monday next.

Mr. J. OTTE wished their capital stock to be augmented to 7,000,000l. or 8,000,000l., as part of it would, no doubt, be taken by other public companies. If they got over three or four years without selling, they would begin to realize a profit, though he did not think their entire payments would be less than 70,000,000l.

The CHAIRMAN said, he was at present feeling his way; all that was essential, in the first place, was to show 5,000,000l.

The question was then put, and the Amendment carried in the affirmative. The Court in pursuance of it adjourned, and books were immediately opened.

Drury Lane.

On Thursday evening we attended at this theatre, to witness the representation of Macklin's "*Man of the World*," which has been revived for the purpose of introducing Mr. Kean to the part of *Sir Pertinax Macynophant*. The attempt, in many respects is an arduous one; not from the comedy of the character, which is simply that of a mere modern *Sir Giles Overreach*, but in consequence of its demand for a species of power, which is not a very usual accomplishment with an able Tragedian. We mean mimicry; for such we esteem the imitation of a peculiar dialect or accent. In other respects, Mr. Kean had to encounter with many disadvantages, as compared with the greatest *Sir Pertinax* in recollection—the able and imprudent Cooke. There is a harsh robust knavery, to the efficient delineation of which, certain physical requisites are almost indispensable; or, at least, if once associated firmly in the mind with a representation, they are not to be easily separated. This is peculiarly the case when the strong energies, which are to be represented, are gross and vulgar. Such are those of the Scotch Knight more especially. His entire career is that of cunning vulgarity—his passions as well as his perceptions. The daring tyranny and rapacity of an *Overreach* (who possibly held estates and coal mines in Cumberland) are heroic, compared with the wily treachery of the political hack and ministerial scavenger of more modern times, although the root of the two characters is the same. The fine transitions and bursts of feeling of KEAN are in consequence lost in this part, for the rage of *Sir Pertinax Macynophant* is never vented but upon those whom he considers in his power, and is therefore uniformly coarse and common. In several of these bursts of anger, Mr. Kean was all they would allow him to be; but they allow him but little, and that little, as we before observed, coarse and vulgar, and consequently not to be filled up by that *vidua vis*, by which we are so pleasantly seduced into an opinion, that the height or portliness of a hero is of no sort of consequence. For the soul of us, we can only conceive of *Sir Pertinax Macynophant* as a tall gaunt Scot, somewhat retorted by good fortune and ministerial dinners. No theatrical management can make Kean resemble such a portrait in person, neither are his characteristics those which can well represent it in mind. The exultation of *Sir Pertinax*, when he hands over a letter which he conceives to be a full proof of the infamy of Constantia, and during the reading of it, however finely acted in the reading of Mr. Kean, appeared to us to exhibit an inconsistent reading. Conformably to the character, the agitation was too violent. The feelings of a man like *Sir Pertinax* on such an occasion, would have been conveyed with cool irony and quiescent contempt. It was apparently conclusive, and required no violent expression either of hope or of fear. In short, the character of *Sir Pertinax Macynophant* gives few opportunities for the excellencies of Mr. Kean, while it rather obtrudes some of his defects. This is not saying that he did not afford many proofs of genius; he can perform nothing without doing so; but he was necessarily kept to the ground, and the ground does not become him. In the converse with the son, his irony and exultation at his good fortune, did not appear to us sufficiently placid and careless for a *Man of the World*, especially of this *Macynophant* family; that is, he showed stronger feelings than belonged to them. The critics find fault with his Scotch, but for this we make every allowance; it must, however, be a great curb to so spontaneous a performer as Kean. He is the last *Man in the World* to dance a horn-pipe in fetters.

The part of *Lady Rodolpha Lumbarcourt* was performed by Miss Booth; and here again the unhappy dialect stepped in to mar an efficient performance—at least we think so; for we are willing to hope that a little unnecessary breadth and vehemence, was attributable to this unhappy necessity. It is fashionable to call the Scotch the *Doric* of the English language; and peculiarly melodious from female lips. We have

certainly so heard it; but doubt if the necessity of pitching the voice at a Drury Lane key, would not mar its naive and rustic gracefulness from any mouth. Cooper's *Egerton* was very good, and throwing off a small portion of stiff mannerism, which he is gradually doing, he bears himself in this line of comedy exceedingly like a gentleman. The play was loudly applauded; but we doubt its very frequent repetition.

In treating of the "*Man of the World*" of about forty or fifty years ago—for such is that of Macklin—we cannot but congratulate our loving countrymen upon the vast improvement of our own times. We have no such prostitution in these days of the *Grevilles*; the thing is far better understood, and placed upon a more elevated footing. *Sir Pertinax* speaks of the *quid pro quo* with extreme coarseness, and openly derides the word conscience as an *unparliamentary* word. In these days of "verbal purity," as Lord Byron calls them, we hear of nothing else; and Hon. Gentlemen will, on proper inducement, vote calmly against their own motions of the day before, with the most apparent self-satisfaction, and loud declarations of conscience and consistency. Nor do we recollect that *Sir Pertinax* speaks once of the necessary influence of the Crown, unless we are to imply as much by his notion of the manner in which venal and rapacious servility is to be rewarded; for in that he strictly agrees with existing Ministers, whom heaven preserve to us. They frankly confess that government cannot be carried on without *sinecure*, pension, and bribery, which they state to be absolutely necessary; but in words so coloured and refined, that the grossness of the ingredient is concealed by its ornament, like a gilded pill. Bribery and corruption are vile phrases; but call them by the milder name of influence, and country gentlemen will swear to their necessity one month after swearing for half a century vehemently the other way. In a word, the practice is what it has always been; but the theory, and, above all, the language are refined; and as to conscience, it has become the most parliamentary word in the world. All the gentlemen who run to a division upon the ringing of a bell have consciences, when they have nothing else, and are never more amusing than when they say so. In another way times are altered; there is not so fine a field for individual *Macynophants* as formerly: they are now raised at once in troops by contract and bounty, and formally badged and regimented. We see them in our mind's eye,—the ingenious recruits!—with the initials of the *Influence of the Crown* on their foraging caps. But where are we running to? This is a theatrical article—yet "all the world's a stage," and nothing more comic, not to say farcical, than the performance political, with certain Ministers for managers, certain Senators for actors, and certain Country Gentlemen for fools;—in respect to the latter indeed, "Mottey's the only wear."

THE BEGGAR'S OPERA—MISS FORDE.

However true it is that, taking the unsparing satire of GAY as a text-book, there is always ample scope for declamation in the multifarious disguises of hypocrisy, we do not intend, nor are we expected, to give a critical *examen* of the *Beggar's Opera* upon the appearance of every aspirant for public favour in either of its characters. Enough has been repeatedly said through this channel to record our opinion of this once popular Drama, which has all but lasted its century. Although a retraction in matters of taste is admissible in any court, and if decent, never too late; we might not here avail ourselves of the licence, for we have ever considered this work as a test, at least theoretically, of moral feeling, which if, as we believe, allied to taste, is indisputably her elder sister. Moral, like political opinion, when once fairly burnt in, and become characteristic, is not easily effaceable or diverted from its integrity. We have made our election with regard to the merits and tendency of the *Beggar's Opera*; and on this point all who think their own thoughts (us, of course, included) have done the same. Here is no neutral ground, "no hesitation—no half assent, (we sometimes read and even quote our own writing) it is admired as beyond, or reprobated as beneath" the accepted notions of propriety.

The Devil rebukes sin, and it is amusing to hear him. It is his business: as it is ours to notice the constancy of this truth upon every fresh instance. The shrewd and sentimental ROUSSEAU, in a memorable passage, implies that "fastidiousness is the veil which the licentious assume;" and SWIFT, without sentiment, but more shrewd, tells us, and all the world repeats the sentence, "that a nice man is a man of nasty ideas." Vice, and affectation, must be flattered and petted: they can ill endure the exposure of their essential vulgarity. The *Beggar's Opera* is eminently calculated to effect this; and we cannot wonder that pretenders should avoid a representation where they must either drop the veil or submit to have it torn aside, its fabric analysed, and the flimsiness of its web detected. Moral convictions can seldom be otherwise than pleasantly aggrandised, and accordingly we chuckle when we find the tenth-night frequenters of the Adelphi Theatre, who have gulped the windmill of *Tom and Jerry* choking at the *Beggar's Opera* as though it were a spoonful of Garagantua's sweet-oil. With the same eyes, though more painfully occupied, we see the Stage Directors banish certain persons of the Drama from behind the curtain, while brilliant saloons and snug boxes are prepared for those living characters—or no characters—of which *Sukey Taudry* and *Molly Brazen* are only the types! But enough

of this; we find we have been falling into the beaten track—saying much that we have declared there was no need to say, and professed our intention to avoid.

We have already expressed a very favourable opinion of the improvement in Miss Forde since last summer. This improvement is unequivocally more observable in her *Polly*, as it was in that part she first appeared before a London audience. Since her *Debut*, she has been an evening-*Star* at one of the watering places, and has acquired sufficient self-possession to enable her to display her power. Her voice has a fine, full, and brilliant intonation, and is of extraordinary capacity in the upper part of the scale. Her performance is yet deficient in a certain finish which further cultivation will doubtless impart; and with the requisites for good singing, which she has at her command, we have every expectation to see her speedily rank high as a florid singer. She was encored in several of the airs. The two principal (of distinct character) she executed with complete success. The song, "*Cease your sunning*," which has from the licence allowed in it, been time immemorial a *bravura*, she gave with a delicacy, precision, and brilliancy seldom excelled; and in "*When my hero*," she evinced an almost equal capability of the tender and pathetic. The defect of her voice is in the lower tones, but which however we think a little time will obviate. At the same time it may be said, that besides her ability in elaborate song, she has a flexibility and playfulness of style which will assuredly avail her in music of a more homely and popular species. For the rest we may observe, that Munden and Mrs. Harlowe were the only performers who brought to our minds the *Beggar's Opera* of former times; and this they did most effectively. Just enough of *Lucy* is left to enable pleasant Miss Copeland to show the versatility of her talents: she made the most of that. The Hero (emancipated according to the reigning taste even more signally than the *Opera*) was but ill sustained by Madame Vestris. She neglected the points, and paid as little attention to her stops. She gave her share of the dialogue inefficiently, and was intelligible (a rare exchange) only in her songs. These unfortunately are in general too high for her voice. We felt pain for the singer; but we recollect our ample recompense in many passages of mellow richness in the tenor notes for which her voice is so justly admired. The hornpipe in fetters is "most doleful mirth"—we wish the Gallery could spare it and us. The "dancing in chains" to be sure reminds us of a fine passage of Cowper; but we always witness it with pain, the more unaffected perhaps, as we remember to have seen the real thing in the very place where the mimic scene is laid.

Brandy.—It is rumoured that the principal of a famous distillery in Paris is about to establish himself in London, for the purpose of distilling Brandy from Potatoes by a process which he adopted in France with the most astonishing success, but which he was obliged to relinquish; the French Government, in order to protect the vine-growers, having laid an enormous duty upon the new discovery. The Brandy made by this individual had not only the strength, but even the fine flavour of that made from grapes, and was accounted equally wholesome.

Greek Theatres.—The Greek theatres had no covering, and plays were formed by day-light in the open air. When compared with the dimensions of modern theatres, those of the ancients were of colossal proportions, because they were designed to contain not only every citizen belonging to the state, but all the strangers who flocked to so popular a sight. The spectators were seated on steps progressively rising above one another; and though some were placed at a considerable distance from the stage, they saw and heard with greater facility than many of the audience at a London playhouse, because the character of the passion intended to be expressed was strongly painted upon the mask which was worn by the actor, whose voice was strengthened by the artful distribution of certain vessels which served to reverberate sounds, as well as by other ingenious devices.

The late President's Works.—Just before we were cut off from "the busy haunts of men," we had the satisfaction of passing some hours in the new rooms, which contain the chief works of the late President; and we see by the papers that they are now re-opened for the season. Certainly, in our opinion, a more rational and delightful entertainment can hardly be desired,—at least by any admirer of the arts,—than that of viewing at leisure the many admirable paintings by the late venerable President, which now fill and grace the walls of these spacious rooms, the largest of which is indeed a treat in itself to behold, for it is by some feet more extensive than that of the Royal Academy.—One of Mr. West's finest historical performances, the *Death of Wolfe*, is now, we perceive, among the works added to the last year's collection of subjects, chiefly scriptural, in the production of which this distinguished Artist passed the whole of his lengthened and honourable life.

Catholic Peers.—Dr. Milner.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR,

I take the liberty of making a few observations to you, that have been urged on my recollection by Mr. Canning's notice of a motion for admitting Catholic Peers to sit in the House of Lords. I am quite pleased with the candour of this proposal. As I was always quite sure that was all the Reform the Catholic Peers wished to have, when they used the word EMANCIPATION, I am pleased that they now openly avow it. Has the Duke of Norfolk been terrorising the Ministers into the measure, by appearing almost ready to join the ranks of the Radical Reformers?

Perhaps, Sir, you may recollect that there was a petition presented to the House of Commons in the last session by the Catholics of, I think, Staffordshire. Now this petition was got up by Dr. Milner, who lives just by Wolverhampton. This petition grounded its claims to the attention of the House, and the relief sought for, on the very circumstance of the Catholics never having taken any part with the Reformers!—And further, the son of Edward Howard, youngest brother to the Duke of Norfolk, is now educating at Oscot College, under the care of the aforesaid Dr. Milner, who is the Bishop of this District: and the youth, who is about eighteen years of age, spends the vacations here, or with the Duke:—his father (Edward Howard) died a few years back.

I throw together these observations, on the truth of which you may depend, thinking they may be a guide to you in forming just opinions of the motives of some Great Men as their actions may develop themselves. If the Duke of Norfolk be friendly to an extension, or rather a restoration of the inalienable and imprescriptible rights of the people from principle, how can he send his nephew to be instructed by Dr. Milner, who states that it is a great merit in the Catholics that they do not ask for those rights?—because, in truth, they know nothing whatever about those rights; and are instructed from the pulpit to cautiously avoid having any thing to do with petitions for Reform. The English Catholics, as a body, have no political information whatever, though in the large towns a few of them of course are better informed.

I enclose a page that I have cut out of a London publication. I ask you, Sir, to take the trouble of perusing it, because I do not think, that without such knowledge, you could believe it possible that the learned Dr. Milner could be calling out for more "Lives of the Saints" at this day! You will also see, that the Doctor is not without hopes that England may again become Catholic! I also particularly entreat your attention to another article, that was inserted in the same publication in 1818. This is a much higher treat than the one I here enclose, being no less than the casting out of a devil by a Mr. Peach, of Birmingham, a Catholic Priest, who is now resident there! You will be amused by Mr. Peach's account of his journey of two or three miles to the place where the woman resided, who was so possessed; and the awful situation, according to his own account, in which he found himself, when there was no person in the room but himself, the woman, and the *Evil One*!

I am not weak enough to believe that any thing can be done to recatholicise England; or even to believe that the sincerity or insincerity of the Duke of Norfolk, as a reformer, can weigh any thing of importance in the scale of the destinies of this great nation; yet, as all these matters are truths, and may at some time enable you to expose the motives of some professing patriot, you will, I hope, pardon the trouble I have given you. The recollection how recently a Catholic censured you (in a letter published in your paper) for some observations made on Hone's *Miraculous Host*, was one inducement to call your attention to the Catholic documents,—as all Catholics are proud of Dr. Milner's learning, and as the Dr. wishes to have more "Lives of the Saints" published: and I am quite sure that those who can believe in the restoration of a female breast, that had been cut off and buried in the church-yard,* have no right to feel offended with the account of the *Miraculous Host*. The Doctor says, it was "suddenly restored;" but whether the identical breast came back from the church-yard, and fixed itself on her side, or another sprung up like a mushroom in a single night, the Doctor has not made clear to us!

Worksop, April 7th.

E.

* "I will mention the venerable Lignori, a late Bishop in Apulia, the author of many pious treatises, at whose intercession, as has been incontestibly and publicly demonstrated, within these few months, a woman whose breast had been cut off for a cancer, and buried in the church-yard, was suddenly restored to her, so that her infant drew milk from it in the same manner as from the other breast, which had never been diseased.—JOHN MILNER, D. D.—Wolverhampton, August 18, 1815."

Newspaper Chat.

Lord Orford's Memoirs.—We have this week copied many interesting anecdotes from this new and expensive and useful publication, and shall find some more for our next week's Chat. Though the work is published by that very loyal, pious, and official bookseller, John Murray, it abounds with matters of fact, inferences, and opinions, far more likely to bring Kings and Courtiers into "public hatred and contempt," than all the speculative reasonings of Thomas Paine and his republication followers. How the said John, who is always looking both ways to his interest, can dabble in such two-edged publications, is a little remarkable; but the certain and extensive sale of a five guinea work, has undoubtedly temptations, which more knowing traders than John have not always been able to resist. What our venerable Monarch will say, on finding his illustrious ancestors thus exposed to "the world's dread laugh," it will be curious to learn. Perhaps the Admiralty Secretary, with his accustomed modesty, will manage to persuade his Majesty, that the Admiralty bookseller has done it all out of pure respect for the Throne and Altar; as the contrast it affords to the wise and virtuous practices of present Rulers and Religionists, must contribute so much to their honour and glory! Yet, notwithstanding this, we shall soon expect to hear honest John accused, by some rash ultra, of spreading disloyalty, blasphemy, and slander, and all for "filthy lucre's sake."—He should, and we dare say will, answer, that, "To the pure, all things are pure."

Queen Caroline—Court Hypocrisy.—She always affected, if any body was present, to act (and the King liked she should) the humble, ignorant wife, that never meddled with politics. Even if Sir Robert Walpole came in to talk of business, which she had previously settled with him, she would rise up, curtsie, and offer to retire; the King generally bade her stay, sometimes not. She and Sir Robert played him into one another's hands; he would refuse to take the advice of the one, and then when the other talked to him again on the same point, he would give the reasons for it which had been suggested to him! Nay, he would sometimes produce as his own, at another conversation, to the same person, the reasons which he had refused to listen to when given him! He has said to Sir Robert, on the curtsies to the Queen, "There! you see, how much I am governed by my wife, as they say I am! Hoh, hoh! it is a fine thing indeed to be governed by my wife!"—"Oh, Sir," replied the Queen, "I must be vain indeed to pretend to govern your Majesty!"

George II.—King George the Second has often, when Mrs. Howard, his mistress, was dressing the Queen, come into the room, and snatched the handkerchief off, and cried, "Because you have an ugly neck yourself, you love to hide the Queen's." Her Majesty (all the while calling her *My good Howard*) took great joy in employing her in the most servile offices about her person. The King was so communicative to his Wife, that one day Mrs. Selwyn, another of the bedchamber-women, told him he should be the last man with whom she would have an intrigue, because he always told the Queen! Their letters, whenever he was at Hanover, were so long, that he has complained when she has written to him but nineteen pages; and in his, at the beginning of his amour with Lady Yarmouth, he frequently said, "I know you will love the Walmoden, because she loves me." Old Blackburn, the Archbishop of York, told her one day, "that he had been talking to her Minister Walpole about the new Mistress, and was glad to find that her Majesty was so sensible a woman as to like her husband should divert himself." Yet, with the affectation of content, it made her most miserable. —The King was the most regular man in his hours; his time of going down into Lady Suffolk's apartment was seven in the evening: he would frequently walk up and down the gallery looking at his watch for a quarter of an hour before seven, but would not go till the clock struck!

Bubb Doddington's Wit.—Doddington was very lethargic. Falling asleep one day after dinner with Sir Richard Temple and Lord Cobham, the general, the latter reproached Doddington with his drowsiness. Doddington denied having been asleep; and to prove he had not, offered to repeat all Lord Cobham had been saying. Cobham challenged him to do so.—Doddington repeated a story; and Lord Cobham owned he had been telling it. "Well," said Doddington, "and yet I did not hear a word of it; but I went to sleep because I knew that about this time of day you would tell that story."

Secret-Service Money.—On opening upon terms and measures, Mr. Fox (the elder) mentioned the Secret-Service Money. The Duke of Newcastle cut him short with saying, that his Brother had never disclosed the disposal of that money; nor would he. Mr. Fox represented, that if he was kept in ignorance of that, he should not know how to talk to Members of Parliament, when some might have received GRATIFICATIONS, others not Mr. Fox pushing for further explanations, asked who was to have the nomination to places; Newcastle replied, I, myself.—Fox:

"Who the recommendation?"—Newcastle: "Any Member of the House of Commons."—Fox then inquired into the projected measures for securing the approaching Parliament, and what list Mr. Pelham had left for composing it. The Duke said, "My brother has settled it all with Lord Duplin."—**Lord Orford's Memoirs.**—(This was in 1754. Mr. Justice Bayley (who sentenced the Proprietor of this Paper to one year's imprisonment, &c. for denouncing the corruption of the House of Commons, must believe, that since that year the system has become purer with age; which is of course the usual and natural process with all very corrupt bodies.)—"The auction of votes," says Horace Walpole, "is become an established commerce."—"Seats," say the friends of the people, "are sold like stalls in a cattle market."—"It is a practice," observes Mr. Ponsonby, "glaring as the noon-day sun."—But the *libeller*, nevertheless, must lose his liberty for twelve months, for telling the people what "their betters," as they are called, have known and practised all their lives! Verily, he will yet have his reward, in witnessing the confusion and dismay of the Corruptionists; for their time is almost come; their contract with Mammon has nearly expired.

Archbishop Blackburn.—One of the preceptors of Prince George (afterwards Geo. III.) was Hayer Bishop of Norwich, a sensible, wellbred man, natural son of Blackburn, the old jolly Archbishop of York, who had all the manners of a man of quality, though he had been a buccaneer, and was a clergyman; but he retained nothing of his first profession but his Seraglio!

Lord Surrey and his Yeomanry Corps.—At a dinner given (on receiving their colours from the hand of Lady Surrey)—his Lordship (as we are informed) instructed them in their duties, and carefully alluded to the proceedings of the "Radicals." A son of one of the tenants, flushed with port or with loyalty, gallantly exclaimed, "We'll cut them down, my Lord!"—After this, the populace frequently shouted this sentence in the ears of the valiant Yeoman, until, having failed in business, he left Workshop.

Duke of Newcastle.—His person was not naturally despicable; his incapacity, his mean soul, and the general low opinion of him, grow to make it appear ridiculous. A constant hurry in his walk, a restlessness of place, a borrowed importance and real insignificance, gave him the perpetual air of a solicitor, though he was perpetually solicited; for he never conferred a favour till it was wrested from him, but often omitted doing what he most wished done. This disquiet, and habit of never finishing, which, too, proceeded frequently from his beginning every thing twenty times over,—gave rise to a famous bon-mot of Lord Wilmington, —a man as unfit to attempt saying a good thing as to do one. He said, "The Duke of Newcastle always loses half an hour in the morning which he is running after the rest of the day without being able to overtake it."—There was no expense to which he was not addicted, but generosity. He loved business immoderately, yet was only always doing it never did it. He aimed at every thing; endeavoured nothing. Fear, —(he never lay in a room alone; when the Duchess was ill, his footman lay in a pallet by him:)—a ridiculous fear, was predominant in him; he would venture the overthrow of the government, and hazard his life and fortunes, rather than dare to open a letter that might discover a plot. He was a Secretary of State without intelligence, a Duke without money, a man of infinite intrigue without secrecy or policy, and a Minister despised and hated by his master, by all parties and ministers, without being turned out by any!—**Lord Oxford's Memoirs.**

A Correspondent has sent us the following Lines, (taken from a very early Number of the Gentleman's Magazine)—"written by Dr. Clarke, on seeing the words 'Ultima Domus' on the monument of the Duke of Richmond, in Chichester Church;"—

Did he who thus inscribed the wall
Not read, or not believe, St. Paul?—
Who says, there is, where'er its stands,
Another House, not made with hands:
Or, may we gather from these words,
That House is not a House of Lords?

A Mahratta Soldier's Wife.—Upon the march she frequently rides astride, with one or two children, upon a bullock, an ass, or a little tattoo horse, while the husband walks by the side. When they reach the encampment, he lies down on his mat to rest, and her employment begins. First she *champees* him and fans him to sleep; then she *champees* the horse, bends his joints, rubs him down, and gives him his provender; takes care of the bullock which has carried their stores, and turns off the poor ass to provide for himself. The next business is to light a fire, prepare rice and curry, and knead cakes. When the husband wakes, his meal is ready; and having also provided food for herself and her children, she takes possession of the mat, and sleeps till daybreak.—The horses are said to be so much refreshed by champeeing, as to bear fatigue with a smaller quantity of food than would otherwise be necessary.—**Forbes's Oriental Memoirs.**

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—281—

Rejected Correspondence.

The following Note, which we received yesterday, is a specimen of the perpetual reproofs to which we are subject, for daring to do our duty: with how much justice this complaint is preferred, the Reader will judge for himself:—

"DEFENSOR has just seen that the Editor of the CALCUTTA JOURNAL refuses to insert any letters on the Unitarian controversy to which his paper gave rise. DEFENSOR will therefore be obliged to him to return his letter, and with permission would suggest to the Editor the propriety of reflecting that strict justice in the present case has neither been done to GOD or MAN, for his paper has sent forth the poison, and the antidote has been refused."

— Calcutta, September 20, 1822.

It is something quite new to us to learn that it could ever fall within the power of a Newspaper Editor to do justice or injustice to God! or that an infinite and eternal Being could receive either injury or benefit from the suspension of any Correspondence in a Newspaper. But the closing complaint is still more extraordinary; for, while a thousand copies of the Scriptures, on which each party build their respective creeds, are to be found scattered throughout the country, in every family, and in every tongue, one would think that the ephemeral poison (admitting it to deserve that name) would need no other antidote than the permanent one to be found in that Book to which all may have access at every hour of the day. In fact, however, we have no private feelings to indulge in this discussion, for it is one into which we should never enter; and altho' DEFENSOR considers his opponent's doctrine to be the poison and his own the antidote; yet, we have no doubt that his opponent would consider DEFENSOR to be the poisoner and himself the giver of the healing balm! There is no course that we could adopt which would please all parties; we must therefore pursue the only one left, of pleasing ourselves, and indulging the hope that in so doing, we shall please those at least who think with us:—beyond this it would be hopeless to aspire.—EDITOR.

Voyage to Dinapore.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

In your Paper of the 4th instant, the following Extract appears, as said to be taken from a Letter dated at Dinapore on the 25th ultimo: "The Left Wing of His Majesty's 87th Regiment, under the command of Captain C. L. Bell, has just arrived off this station, and the Men are to be disembarked in the evening. I have not heard that any accidents have occurred with this Division of the Regiment during the latter part of the voyage from Fort William."

Now, Sir, from the particular allusion made to the latter part of the voyage, it must appear to any person reading the above extract, that in the early part of the voyage accidents had occurred; and further, from the circumstance of the Officer who left Calcutta in Command of the Wing having been suddenly ordered back, when near Dinapore, on duty to the Presidency, it would appear that the writer of the Extract, in his division of the time consumed in performing the voyage, by the latter part means that period from the date of the Officer (whose name he mentions) having succeeded to the Command, to that of the arrival of the fleet at Dinapore. Unwilling therefore that any erroneous impression should be formed, as must be the case (however unintentional on the part of the writer) from the perusal of the above Extract; I beg leave to state that no accident occurred to this Wing during any period of the voyage, although in the early part several very severe squalls were encountered; and further, that this "latter part" (according to the abovementioned division of the voyage) commenced on the evening of the 22d and ended on that of the 25th ultimo, during the whole of which time the weather was as favourable as could be expected, or indeed wished for.

The insertion of this letter in your Paper will much oblige,
September 16, 1822, A LOVER OF CANDOUR.

Berhampore.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

On Wednesday the 11th instant, the Left Wing of H. M. 38th Foot reached this Station. This Regiment appears to be composed of a fine set of steady well behaved men, which is in general the case with H. M. Regiments on their first arrival in India, but on their receiving Volunteers from Corps that have been long in the country, a few bad characters but too frequently corrupt a great many.

The weather has at length set in fair, though we had strong gales from the S. E. and heavy rain for several days; it is to be hoped, that this will prove the breaking up of the season, though we may expect some squally weather on the Equinox.

On Thursday the 12th instant, His Highness the Nawaub Nazim gave the usual Annual Entertainment on the festival of the Behra, at which most of the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Station were present: the fire works were excellent, and the illumination at Roushnee Baugh representing the extensive front of a Mosque had a very excellent effect.—About 10 P. M. the Behra floated majestically down the current, and the night being dark made a very brilliant appearance. After the Behra had passed the palace under volleys of musquetry and a display of fire works from both shores of the River, the party adjourned to the supper table, where His Highness presided.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

Berhampore, September 16, 1822.

M.—

Imprisonment for Debt.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I have just perused, in your Paper of the 10th instant, a letter from "A CHRISTIAN," on the subject of the unfortunate persons incarcerated in the Calcutta Gaol, and congratulating the person who has recently effected his enlargement therefrom. From the tenor of his animadversions against the wholesome practice of depriving persons of their liberty, on account of debt, the writer has assumed, in my opinion, an improper character; for the principle of Christianity is to act justly towards our neighbours; and if it can be proved that in the majority of cases where individuals have been immured in prison for debt, their mishap proceeded more from their vices and extravagance, than from circumstances which they could not controul; then, to wish that they should all make their escape from prison, and thus be let loose upon the public, to renew their aggressions, evinces a spirit certainly not that of a Christian.

If Gentlemen would take the trouble to make enquiries upon subjects on which they are disposed to write, they would not fall into the errors which they naturally commit, nor expose themselves to public censure for their mis-statements and misrepresentations. If "A CHRISTIAN" had given himself the trouble, before he uttered his pathetic apprehension of the Runagate having passed 30 years of his life in the Jail, to ascertain the period of his confinement there, and the circumstances of his incarceration, he would not, perhaps, have thus vented his feelings. Indeed, I am inclined to suspect that he himself is a debtor, and under fears of sharing a like fate; and has thence a fellow feeling for those similarly situated as himself, with this difference, that he is in the enjoyment of his liberty, while the others have forfeited theirs. If my suspicion, that "A CHRISTIAN" himself is in debt, be well founded, I have, however, a word of consolation to him, that, should he ultimately be fated to take up his abode "within the devouring jaws of Moloch, the Calcutta Jail," he may cheer up his drooping spirits with the certainty that, if unforeseen and uncontrollable misfortunes have assailed him, he will not be immured therein for any length of time, as Creditors in general in Calcutta are very liberal towards their Debtors; and indeed they seldom resort to coercion and harshness, when such measures can possibly be avoided. And when they are compelled to seize the per-

sons of their Debtors, they are ready to liberate them, upon proper concessions being made. Under such circumstances then, to suppose that the number who have died in Jail will preponderate over the number liberated therefrom, betrays great ignorance of the state of the Calcutta Goal, and is a very unjust reflection upon the Creditors here.

I have had some knowledge of the internal economy of the Calcutta Goal, since the year 1809, and I can speak from my own observation that very few persons have died there, not averaging 4 in a year. Frequently a much greater number has been liberated in the month; the preponderance therefore will undoubtedly be on the side of the latter. I know of but one instance where a person was under confinement there for upwards of 15 years; and it was a case of great delinquency: the Creditors were members of one of the first houses of agency. I can adduce a few more instances of protracted confinement, in each of which also the Creditors have been much aggrieved, through the obstinacy and dishonesty of their Debtors.

"A CHRISTIAN" asks by what laws, human or divine, has one man power over the life (he means, perhaps, the liberty) of another, to cast him into prison. Surely he must be very little acquainted with the Scriptures to ask such a question. I would refer him to them, for an answer, where he will find that such power has been exercised, even by Creditors, which amounts at least to be of Divine sanction; and with regard to human institutions, they have in all countries, and in all ages authorized imprisonment for debt, to protect the property of individuals. If for the security of private property such a measure became necessary, how much more for the protection of the lives of individuals, and for the maintenance of good order and regularity in Society. Let a Christian but get rid of the dread of incarceration, under which I fear he labours, and he will see the folly of his unmeaning rhapsody on the subject of the Calcutta Goal.

Your's in haste,

September 13, 1822.—9 o'clock, P. M.

JUSTUS.

East India Sugar.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Your Correspondent, "KENNETH MCSYCOPIANT," according to his own account, would bow, and scrape, and do any other dirty thing, so as it pleased the powers that be. But I ask, what have the Government to do, in an affair of this kind? Have they no other matters of more weight, and consideration, than this, to annoy themselves about? It belongs to the Merchants themselves particularly to stand forward to assert their rights, on any threatened invasion, from any quarter; and I think I know them better than KENNETH himself, who has certainly libelled the whole, by asserting that self-interest is the main spring of all their actions; yet this self-constituted organ of the Merchants of Calcutta, with amazing consistency, now cries out to prevent their seeing those interests injured, which he before declares is the prime mover of whatever they do!! Was it self-interest, Mr. KENNETH, that prompted the Subscription to the Sufferers of Barrisaul, and a thousand others that have been raised by the Merchants alone? But, as an Englishman, I am disgusted with such vile principles; they may be perfectly congenial to Mr. KENNETH, who I take for a perfect prototype of his namesake! but, thank God, those ideas are fast exploding, and there are men, even from Scotland, not ashamed to own, that their actions spring from more worthy motives, viz. to benefit Mankind, as well as themselves.

BRITANNICUS.

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.

	H.	M.
Morning,	8	47
Evening,	9	11
Moon's Age,	6 Days.	

Sale of Wines.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I have read the letter of "A MERCHANT OF CALCUTTA," published in the JOURNAL of 17th August, and cannot avoid hazarding a few remarks, upon the manifest injustice of the latter part of his proposition. This fair Correspondent, Sir, actually proposes to petition Government, not to allow any Wines to be sent to Out Stations for retail sale, thereby endeavouring to prevent the Military Officers from obtaining Wine at a reasonable rate from the Honorable Company, in order, I suppose, that this *disinterested* MERCHANT OF CALCUTTA might supply them at double the prices.

I have served in several divisions of the Army, but at present will only particularize the Hyderabad, and Nagpore Subsidiary Forces, in the former of which, very tolerable Wine was sold (in pipes) to Officers, at a rate which (including all incidental expenses of bottling, &c.) did not average more than 22 Rupees per dozen—much worse Wine cost 36 Rupees per dozen in the shops. I may apply the same remarks to the Wine sold on account of the Honorable Company at Nagpore, which was not only very much cheaper, but, beyond all comparison, superior to that retailed by the Parsee Shop-keepers.

After making the disinterested proposal, I have been alluding to, "A MERCHANT OF CALCUTTA," in his great generosity, seems inclined to permit the "old usage of whole-sale, from time to time of the Company's Goods," which I really suppose the Company will not consult him about, far less will they be inclined to humour this MERCHANT OF CALCUTTA, at the expence of their tried and faithful Military Officers.

I am astonished at the selfishness manifested by this Gentleman's letter, who appears not satisfied with the Merchants having a regular monopoly of every thing else, but actually wishes to deprive the Military Body of the only cheap mode of obtaining Madeira Wine, which is an article so much used, that a Rupee extra upon the price of a bottle, makes a material difference in the economy of a Subaltern's purse.

Very likely "A MERCHANT OF CALCUTTA," will answer to my objections, that Company's Wine is paid for by instalments, whereas a Mercantile House can give credit. That is no argument, most people had rather purchase an article for 20 Rupees, and pay for it by monthly instalments, than give 30 to a Merchant, who will charge interest, if not discharged, at the end of six months. Besides, who would like to send several hundred miles, for Wine, when it is procurable probably at the same station, on reasonable terms. It is true, indeed, that at many stations Wines are sold in Shops, but the quality is generally very inferior, and the price exorbitant.

I hope, Sir, that your *disinterested* Correspondent will take these hints in good part, and for the future forbear to shew his cloven foot in the JOURNAL "as those who play at bowls, must sometimes expect to meet with rubbers."

I remain, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

Northern Circars, }
August 31, 1822. }

PEREGRINE PUNGENT.

CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, SEPTEMBER 20, 1822.

	BUY....	SELL.
Remittable Loans,	Rs. 19 10	19 0
Unremittable ditto,	11 12	11 4
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for } 12 Months, dated 31st of December 1821, .. }	27 0	26 0
Ditto, for 12 months, dated 30th of June 1822, ..	25 0	24 0
Ditto, for 18 months, dated 30th of April,	23 0	22 0
Bank Shares,	4500 0	4400 0
Spanish Dollars, per 100,	205 12	203 4
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 months, bearing Interest, at 6 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discount		at 3-8 per cent.
Loans upon Deposit of Company's Paper, for 1 to 3 months,		4 per cent.

Selections.

Java.—We have seen a letter Singapore, bearing date the 9th ultimo. A native Craft had arrived from Samarang, which brought a report to Singapore of a threatened rising of the Eastern and central districts of Java. General DE KOCK was said to be at Samarang with a force of 8,000 men, partly Dutch and partly Natives. The report was not generally believed at Singapore, though those who had no cause to bear any very great good will towards the Dutch were inclined to give it credit. It is understood that the Natives are very discontented with the present order of things, and the probability is, that had they arms, there would be no deficiency of inclination on their side to make a bold attempt at rectifying their real or supposed grievances. Some time ago the Governor General of Java with his suite, as well the Military and Naval Commanders in Chief, &c. &c. were preparing to proceed on a tour to the Eastward, but they appeared to have no dread of an approaching insurrection. Perhaps the movements of such a party of magnates may have given the natives an idea that a rising of the Chiefs was in contemplation.

Turks and Persians.—By a letter from the Persian Gulf, dated 5th July, we learn that the war between the Turks and Persians continued to be carried on with the sincerest vigor of hatred on both sides, and that considerable reinforcements were on their march from different quarters of the Turkish empire, to act against Persia. As both parties are brave and furious zealots, we may easily imagine, that when the two armies meet in any strength, the onset will be dreadful. The Cholera had made its appearance in the interior of Persia, and was last heard of at Yezd, destroying at the rate of 150 human beings per diem. It did not reach so far last year, and was supposed to be spreading on towards Ispahan, where the writer of the letter concluded it had arrived about the time he was writing. The British Resident at Bushire had been called up to Court by the King, and had also received two farmans from the Prince at Sheraz requiring his attendance. It was the intention of the Resident to comply with His Royal Highness's wishes and proceed as far as Sheraz. Further he did not conceive himself authorized to advance without the instructions of Government.

Siam Mission.—Accounts of the Siam Mission under Mr. CRAWFORD, dated Siam 10th June, have been received in town by the way of Penang. The business of the Mission was considered at an end, nor were the results so satisfactory as could be wished. The Siamese are so jealous, cautious and unaccommodating, that it must take some time before negotiation can effect much with them, either politically or commercially. They have, we understand, singular prejudices, which it is not easy to conquer. It may be hoped, however, that the dignified, generous and just conduct of our Indian Government, of which the Siamese have shown themselves not unconscious, will ere long produce the most desirable consequences.

The King of Siam is described as a man about sixty years of age, of bloated appearance, and of no very dignified habits. He gives himself, it is supposed, but very little concern about affairs of state, or the cares of government; the different departments of which he has divided among his children, which together with some of the principal aristocrats of the country, manage the affairs of the kingdom. Prince CHROMA-CHIT, the fourth in point of rank, is the Commercial Director General of the nation, and officially takes cognizance of every thing relative to commerce. He and his party, it is understood, would willingly abate something of the restrictive system in favor of a more liberal and extended system of trade. The party opposed to Prince CHROMA-CHIT, and which is considered the most respectable, stand up for ancient rules; all however are disposed to receive European Ships into their ports. Properly speaking, the King is the only merchant in Siam, for no subject dares offer to purchase any thing until his Majesty has made his bargain, from the retail of which, he of course derives a handsome profit. His agents have by this arrangement a great deal of power in their hands, and are very difficult and hard to deal with.

The Mission was to remain at Siam until the month of September, nor was it, we believe, the intention of Mr. CRAWFORD to visit the Eastern islands of the Archipelago.

The scientific department of the Mission, we learn, has been conducted with the utmost assiduity and zeal. There is no finer field in the world perhaps for the Botanist than the peninsula of Malacca and the neighbouring islands, where the wonderful luxuriance of the vegetable kingdom is said to be beyond the power of imagination to pre-conceive, or of language to describe. Notwithstanding various difficulties which stood in the way of the scientific enquirer, some of which are obvious to all who recollect the inconveniences of a seafaring life, and some of which were particular to the expedition, many rare and several new plants were collected; the Zoological collection was daily on the increase, and included complete specimens, being mostly different species of Mammalia, of Birds, a few curious Fishes, and a few of the

Amphibia. Two of the quadrupeds are undescribed by any author. A tolerably good specimen of that singular animal the Trichechus Dugong had been preserved, and particular attention had been paid to its internal structure, of which we may expect a full and accurate description. We have not heard whether any valuable mineralogical specimens were procured, but anticipate no great addition to this division of the scientific department from the peculiar circumstances under which the movements of the Mission were made.—*India Gazette.*

Arabian Nights.—Mr. SALAME, Arabic Interpreter to Government in London, is undertaking a liberal and entirely new version of the whole of the Arabian Nights, in which the liberties taken by former translators will be avoided, and the idiom of the original language preserved as much as possible.

Uriel.—A new work, called "URIEL," being a Poetical address to the Right Hon'ble Lord Byron, with notes, containing strictures on the spirit of infidelity maintained in his works, has been announced for publication.

Painting by Wilkie.—Under the head of FINE ARTS in the literary MUSEUM for May, we see noticed an admirable painting by Wilkie:—"Chelsea Pensioners receiving the News of the Battle of Waterloo," which is described as in every respect, a most masterly performance, and superior to any thing that ever came from the hand of that most extraordinary artist. It appears that the Duke of Wellington was desirous of decorating the mansion voted him by the liberality of his country, with a specimen or two of the talents of her choicest artists. Accordingly, Mr. Wilkie was waited upon by the Duke in person, and was requested to undertake a picture for him, in which among other things he might introduce a few old soldiers, or Chelsea pensioners, playing at bowls or skittles. On receiving this commission, the intelligent mind of WILKIE, says the narrator, soon seized upon a subject, appropriate in every respect, in which not only these Chelsea Pensioners might figure in full costume, but the great achievement of his employer be made the principal cause of bringing them together, and of engaging them, in action and discourse, in a manner the most natural and striking possible.—*John Bull.*

Java Proclamation.

(Continued from the Journal of Tuesday last.)

ART. 7. The coasting trade along the Islands of Java and Madura carried on with Dutch coasting vessels, shall, except the obligation of rendering faithful declarations of their cargoes on their arrival, and petitions for loading or for discharging their cargoes, be free from all further formalities, consignations, securities, &c. under the following regulations and exceptions, viz.

a That said ships or vessels belonging to the Island of Java and Madura, and carrying Coffee or Sugar from one place of Java or Madura to another place in the same Islands, shall in the manner now in practice, give small but good securities for the value of the duties on exportation on those articles, at the place from whence they are exported, which security bonds shall be cancelled on the production of a certificate, proving that those goods actually have been reloaded on the Islands of Java and Madura, while all these documents for so far as concerns the natives, shall be written in the respective offices on the verbal declarations of the owners without paying any fees.

b That all others ships and crafts not belonging to the ports of the Islands of Java and Madura, but that nevertheless are admitted as coasting vessels on these Islands, in like manner shall enjoy the same privileges, as ships and crafts belonging thereto, with this exception, however, that they not only for Coffee and Sugar, but for all other goods, shall tender securities, or consignations for the re-importation of them in the Island of Java and Madura.

c B. with regard to Netherland India's possessions out of Java and Madura, (Malakka excepted.)

ART. 8. On all Dutch possessions in India, with the exception of Malakka, equal duties on importation shall be levied as on Java and Madura, conform the stipulations expressed in Art 15 and 16 of the regulation of the 28th of August, 1818, and the explanations given thereof by the publications of the 7th of Sept. and 13th Oct. 1821, and 5th Feb. 1822, where for henceforward on all goods about which for as yet no fixed regulations are made, import duties shall be paid.

When they shall be imported with Dutch ships or native vessels considered equal therewith, six per centos, and when imported with foreign ships, or with ships navigating under Dutch colours, and belonging to owners residing in India, but coming from ports belonging to foreign potentates, and situated in Europe or in America, twelve per centos.

Calculated after the stipulations expressed in Art. 16th of the regulations, on which import and export duties of the 25th of August, 1818,

of which the Opium alone is excepted, and likewise those articles on which already a certain duty has been affixed, and which stipulations by these presents are declared applicable in all Netherland possessions in India, Malakka excepted.

Freedom is further hereby given to the respective Governors and Residents, in case they should remark that this system of equal duties is not applicable or disadvantageous to some places, to deliver in their statements respecting it and the motives on which they ground their opinion.

ART. 9. At all the Netherland possessions beyond Java and Madura, goods without exception shall be exempt from import duties, which are accompanied with a certificate, mentioned in Art. 5, hereabove, which shall be imported in Dutch ships or native vessels in equality put thereunto.

ART. 10. The duty levied at present at the different settlements out of Java and Madura on exportation of goods, shall continue till other arrangements respecting them shall be made, with exception alone of such goods as are the productions of the soil, or of the industry of the inhabitants in those settlements, of which, goods when exported to foreign ports, the double exportation duty shall be paid, which, according to the existing regulations are not levied on them, when exported to a Dutch port, or to ports belonging to native Princes in amity with the Dutch Government, Siam included.

§ C. respecting Malakka.

ART. 11. The import duties at Malakka shall henceforth, with the exception of that on Opium, and all such articles as whereon by the now existing tariff, a certain duty is fixed, be levied as follows:—

On goods imported with Dutch ships, one per cent.

On goods imported with foreign ships, two per cent. to be calculated on their value at the time of importation, while the exemption of duty mentioned in Art. 1. with regard to Java and Madura, shall likewise be applicable to Malakka, on native vessels considered in equality to the Dutch.

ART. 12. Likewise shall the exemption of duties, mentioned in Art. 9, with regard to settlements distant from Java and Madura, in every respect be applicable to Malakka.

ART. 13. The export duty in goods, being the production either of the soil, or of the industry of the inhabitants of Malakka, shall for first, and in expectation of other arrangements therabout remain, as they are at present.

ART. 14. The export duties, on all other goods whereon import duty have been paid, or of which certificates will be shown as mentioned by Art. 12, are by these presents abolished.

§ D. General Stipulations.

ART. 15. By the above alterations and ampliations, it is not understood, that any alterations have been made, either in the regulations now in vigour at the places or harbours in Netherlands India, which may or may not be touched at, or in the existing regulations on the trade and navigation in Netherlands India in general; all which regulations and stipulations must be considered as to remain in full force, till respecting them, other orders shall be given.

ART. 16. Henceforward no seizures of any goods shall take place, except in cases of evident fraud, and wilful intentions to avoid the payment of duties, and all contraventions, neglects of formalities required by law, and such like trespasses, when accompanied by any aggravated circumstances, shall henceforward be punished by a fine of one to three per cents. on the value of the goods, according to circumstances, and those fines will in singular cases be reduced below one per cent. on the value of the property; or at five and twenty florins to Europeans, and at ten florins to Natives, all at the option at Batavia of the Director of the import and export duties; and, at other places, at the option of the respective Governors, Residents or other first Civil Authorities; whilst the owner of such property, in case he finds himself aggrieved by those fines, shall have the liberty to address the Governor General respecting it.

ART. 17. The abovementioned regulations shall be acted upon at Java and Madura, on the 1st of September next, and in all the other establishments, fourteen days after this publication shall have been there received.

And in order, that no one shall pretend ignorance hereof; this publication shall be made known at all places, in the Dutch, Native and China languages.

Ordering further, that to all the high and low Colleges, Judicial and Military Servants, each, for so far as it may concern them, shall tender

their assistance towards the minute executions of these orders, without favor or regard of persons.

Done at Batavia, the 9th of July, of the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty two.

VAN DER CAPELLAN.

By order of the Governor General in Council.

(India Gazette.)

The Secretary General, P. MERHUS.

Description of Bagur.

To the Editor of John Bull.

SIR,

If you consider the following short account of the Province of BAGUR, deserving a place in your Paper, you have my permission to publish it. I have sundry other Papers of a similar nature, which I can send you from time to time. They were drawn up by an Officer of great antiquarian knowledge, and intended for publication, but he died before they were prepared for the Press. You must therefore pardon any slight verbal inaccuracies that may appear in them.

CAMEK.

PROVINCE OF BAGUR.

There are in many places in the districts of Portaburgh, Dangurpoore, and Banawara, the trace of towns which have been destroyed many years since: the inhabitants of the country know little of them besides the names; they have some confused accounts of twelve cities having been overwhelmed with a shower of earth, and connected with this, tell a story very similar to the well known one of Oojein. In some of these places there are said to be the remains of temples, nearly buried in the earth; Coins have been frequently found, but are not always to be procured; gold and silver ones are always melted. Some of these are said to bear the impression of an Ass. Has this any relation to the story of Gundhar-Sen? Inscriptions also exist in some of these places, but are much defaced, the greater part might however be most probably deciphered, but it would require some time and labour; few Natives can be depended on for copying accurately, inscriptions that are at all defaced. Brahmuns who were sent to some of these places returned without copying more than a few letters, though sent more than 30 miles for the purpose. Some of these cities are said to have been built by Sud Bao Juy Singh, one of a dynasty who reigned at Puttan in Gojjarat, about Sumvat 1100.

The practice of burying copper plates is very prevalent in times of such disorder as the present, those who possess them are not willing to shew them. It is probable that there are not any of a greater antiquity than about 400 years. The present dynasty of Rajpoots were established about 500 years since; previous to this the inhabitants say that none but Bheels inhabited the country, and the ruins of the cities above mentioned, were, they say, then in the same state they are now.

There are two or three places in the woody hills of these districts, which the inhabitants, consider as the places of abode of the Pandoo, while in the forest, at these places in some months festivals are held. The nature of the country generally corresponds to the description, in the Muhabharatu of Dweta Vunn, the species of trees mentioned, the Pulashu, Vutu, &c. abound, as do streams and pools of water, the Saras water is also mentioned, and there is a small river of this name near Puttan and West from Dangurpoore. It is probable that the author of this work had some real forest in view, and from all the circumstances mentioned it was probably in this part of India, which is even now almost a forest. It is not said that they continued in one place during the time they were in Dweta Vunn.

The Temples in these districts are very numerous, and some of them must have been erected at a great expence. The style resembles that of the ancient temples in other parts of Malwa and Hindoostan. Square pillars, roofs framed of beams and slabs of stone, with nothing like an arch or dome, usually adorned with a profusion of ornament, executed in the usual manner, figures ill proportioned and stiff in many temples of Vishnoo, and of the Jains, figures, most grossly indecent are conspicuous. The Jains are very numerous in these districts, their temples exceed in number perhaps those of the regular Hindoos. They are very extensive, often 80 or 90 yds. long by 40 wide: consisting of a temple in the centre, with a spire, and surrounded by a kind of cloister, the part in front covered in as a portico. There is however nothing in these buildings, grand or magnificent; the pillars are now low, and the parts ill arranged. Few temples now standing are of any antiquity.

Near Doongurpoore is the far celebrated temple of Bishalhu Deva, resorted to by Brahmuns and other Hindoos, as well as by Jains, indeed in this country, there is none of that enmity between the Jains and Brahmuns, which formerly prevailed. The attendants at most of the Jain Temples are Brahmuns, and the Jains not unfrequently feed Brahmuns, on occasions of sickness, &c. as the regular Hindoos do. The Hindoo principle of toleration seems to prevail in both sects, that both are true.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—285—

Improvement of the Natives.

On the most effectual mode of securing the permanent cultivation of Knowledge among the Natives of India.

FROM THE FRIEND OF INDIA—JUST PUBLISHED.

On surveying the exertions made for the general diffusion of knowledge in India, it must strike the most cursory observer, that the active co-operation of the natives themselves, is indispensably requisite to the accomplishment of this important object. Without such co-operation, the exertions of European agents, if highly successful, will require so long a period for the completion of this object, that the mind is almost discouraged with the distance of the prospect. But could the natives be induced to enter into the same views, could so powerful a stimulus be given to the native mind and such a thirst for knowledge be communicated to the community in general, that the task devolving on Europeans, should be chiefly confined to the direction of the general course of knowledge or the superintendence of their studies, the work would become comparatively easy, and the expense be so far lightened, that in the course of time, little adventitious aid would be required from voluntary subscriptions.

To this however the obstacles are great, though by no means insurmountable. The mental improvement we are anxious to introduce, must appear of comparatively trivial importance to the native mind. A vague and indistinct notion of the superiority hereby imparted to the British nation, cannot fail to have obtruded itself often on the minds of our Indian subjects; but this would be more likely to originate a kind of stupid admiration, than to lead to practical benefit. As long as honor and dignity, which give the impulse to the human mind and bring all its powers into action, are bestowed without reference to mental cultivation, we cannot expect to see much ardour in them for cultivating the mind. It is not in the pursuit of an unproductive, or an equivocal good, that ardor of mind is in general displayed; but let advancement in solid knowledge, in actual mental cultivation, be once associated with some tangible object, some prospect of advancement either in wealth or dignity; and the springs of action being set in motion in the native mind, the same effects will be produced in India as have been produced in other countries.

Some indigenous stimulus must therefore be imparted to the country before the cultivation of knowledge will make any extensive and lasting progress: for even supposing that by amazing labor and exertion, knowledge could in some way be wedged into the indifferent minds of the present generation, the care of preserving this precious deposit, and of communicating it to the succeeding generation, must rest almost exclusively with themselves. If they therefore remain indifferent, the work must in a great degree be begun anew in every successive generation. But should mental cultivation be esteemed indispensably necessary as a qualification for places of dignity and emolument, this would effectually secure the transmission of knowledge from one generation to another; as it would render parents anxious that their children should possess that knowledge and cultivation of mind without which they feel assured, that neither favor nor influence can give them any hope of obtaining admission to places of dignity and trust, with them so much the object of desire.

That extrinsic incitements should constitute a grand stimulus to literary exertion, is in its nature by no means strange. Such has been the case among the most civilized nations, our own country not excepted. Of those who in our native land seek a liberal education, how few are allured to study merely by an abstract love of knowledge, compared with the number who are stimulated thereto by a view of the benefits they regard as connected therewith? These benefits may in general be classed under two heads, the support of an elevated rank in society, and the prospect of obtaining situations of dignity and emolument, for which the highest mental acquisitions are considered necessary. No doubt many may be found, who, commencing their pursuit with those objects in view, have during their progress imbibed such an attachment to knowledge, as eventually to prosecute their studies from nobler motives; but were all these extrinsic incitements to the acquisition of knowledge to be wholly withdrawn, we fear, that even in Britain itself, the pursuit of knowledge and the study of elegant literature would begin to decay. How then can we expect that in the absence of all these incitements, knowledge should be cultivated with ardour in India, where its charms have as yet been scarcely unveiled?

Among these two classes of inducements, India yet possesses little of the first. Before mental cultivation can be considered as necessary to the support of rank and dignity, the tone of the native society must be elevated, and knowledge become more an object of estimation among the higher classes. But the second class of incitements may be created here in their fullest extent, as the situations which natives occupy in the private employ of Europeans and the public service of Government, are esteemed of such value by

them as to stimulate them to any exertions which have for their object a certainty of attaining them as their ultimate reward.

It hence appears to deserve consideration, whether, as natives must be continually employed both in the service of government and in private confidential situations, it will not be wise on the one hand for those who direct the improved system of instruction in India, to prepare men in the higher departments of science and literature, who may adorn public stations, and benefit the government they serve by their knowledge, ability and probity, while they promote the welfare of their countrymen by extending the diffusion of knowledge and gradually elevating the scale of mental attainments among the higher classes of their countrymen. And on the other hand, whether it be not wise in those who have the disposal of those situations, to patronize men who possess these acquisitions, and such men alone, without regard to cast, or religion; and as they find the natives rise in knowledge and ability, to raise the qualifications for public offices and situations to a level with the superior attainments of the educated classes of the community.

In the direction of studies calculated to form natives for the highest situations in the country, much diligence and perseverance will be requisite, as these studies must be continued through a series of years. For the mass of natives destined to the common occupations of life, a less portion of knowledge will be sufficient; but those who are to be candidates for the higher situations, should acquire a profound and thorough knowledge of those parts of learning in which they are instructed. Their education should be conducted on a regular system corresponding in some measure with those adopted at the great literary establishments in our own land. When men are to obtain situations of dignity and trust as the result of their personal application to study, the scale of the acquisitions requisite should be placed as high as possible. These men of learning and talent, while enjoying the favour of government in their respective stations as the reward of diligence, ability, and probity, should become within their respective spheres the patrons of knowledge and the guardians of its progress: and as their acquisitions would far exceed those of men in the various situations below them, these would naturally look up to them as those instructors. Hence if no greater share of learning were insisted on as the *sine qua non* for holding these offices of trust and dignity, than might be acquired by the transient inmates of a village school, the cause of knowledge would greatly suffer: and among such persons, men of pre-eminent ability and learning are not to be expected.

It may here be properly asked, whether if a rational hope of obtaining places of trust and emolument were held out to natives as the reward of diligence and real acquisition, this would be sufficient to stimulate them to an arduous and long continued course of study. This question may be solved at once by referring to the constitution of our common nature, and the principles which actuate the human mind. In every walk of life the exertions made, invariably correspond with the value of the object which is beheld as the prize of exertion. In India the mind is as keen and as earnest in its calculations of interest as in any part of the world; and the exact value of every situation obtainable, is most thoroughly understood by all around who have the most distant hope of filling it. Encouragements of this kind held out therefore, will be certain of having their full weight on the mind. As nothing however is so convincing as experience, we will adduce facts which will put the prevalence of these feelings and ideas among the natives out of all doubt, and evince that Bengal affords no kind of exception to these general principles which regulate the pursuits of mankind.

The study of the Sanskrit language, in the manner in which the natives pursue the study, involves as great an expense of time, and fully as much intellectual labor, as an extensive scale of literary acquisitions would require under vigilant and judicious European superintendence. The hope which animates the natives to this study is, the desire after literary distinction, or the emoluments which are connected therewith among themselves. In this instance then, an object in their estimation of far less value than numerous situations held by natives under government, is deemed an object of sufficient magnitude to recompense the severest study and the most persevering application.

Let this example drawn from habits continued from time immemorial should not carry sufficient weight with it, we will adduce two other examples of more recent origin which can draw no kind of support from national usage or immemorial custom. During the continuance of the Mussulman Dynasty, the situations which were held under the government were probably lucrative; but an introduction to them could only be attained through the medium of the Persian language. This language, foreign as it was to them, and associated as it was with circumstance of national disgrace, of course possessed no attraction independently of its being the avenue to places of trust and emolument. This inducement however was sufficiently strong to overcome every thing unpleasant associated with the language; the natives spontaneously gave up their time to the study of it, and incorporated it with the system of education laid down for those who hoped to attain to dignity and

wealth. As the British government has hitherto continued it in the Native Courts, they still continue the pursuit with undiminished ardor; and bestow far more time, attention, and expense thereon, than on the cultivation of their own vernacular tongue.

Since the prevalence of British sway, the labor of the natives has in many instances been augmented by adding the study of our tongue to their former course of education; and had our government formerly introduced the English language into the courts of justice and the different departments of government, there can be no doubt but it would have beaten the Persian completely out of the field. As matters now stand however, it is universally esteemed the high road to wealth and distinction; and he who in the opinion of his superiors has attained both these languages, is supposed by his neighbours to enjoy the most brilliant prospects of attaining dignity and wealth. In this their ardor for acquiring the language of their conquerors, they have overcome the most formidable of all obstacles, the want of teachers. Impelled and animated by the hope of one day realizing the golden prospects with which they encourage their minds, they apply to it with such means as they can procure to the almost entire neglect of their own language. Those who are unable to pay an instructor, procure a grammar, a dictionary, or possibly Dyche's Spelling-book, and devote as great a portion of time to the study with these meagre helps, as under able instructors would be sufficient to unfold to them the whole circle of English literature.

These instances will serve to shew that public situations have been always found sufficiently attractive to induce the natives to devote their time and their money to studies totally foreign to their domestic economy, and to all their former ideas. They were not long in discovering the right road to emolument, nor by any means tardy in entering thereon. Without the smallest assistance from either the Mahomedan or the English government, they have found means for acquiring the language of their respective rulers. They have formed a regular system for youth destined for public places, which comprizes the study of both languages, and which they pursue almost with the steadiness with which the education of youth is carried forward in Britain. In making these exertions however, they have done nothing more than most other nations would have done in similar circumstances. They have made a certain sacrifice of money, labour, and time for the acquisition of that which they esteem still more valuable. There can be no doubt therefore, that if other qualifications were superadded to these, or substituted for them, they would apply to them with the same ardor and perseverance.

Against the probability of their making a very rapid progress in general knowledge, the small progress which the majority of native students have made in the acquisition of the English language, forms no kind of argument. English is to them a foreign language, the genius and construction of which are altogether contrary to their own, and which has scarcely a word in common with theirs, if we except some few English terms now in familiar use among them, and so disguised in their pronunciation that they can be scarcely recognized by an English ear. As in this language so utterly strange to them, they never converse except with their instructors, it can scarcely be expected that they should attain any great degree of readiness therein. And that they have made little more progress in reading and writing English, is rather their misfortune than their fault. The teachers to whom alone they can in general have access, are with little exception ignorant of the fundamental principles of the language; and any great improvement under them is entirely hopeless. After years of the most assiduous exertion therefore, the rich stores of English literature remain still closed to the native student. Had he been reading in his native tongue for the same length of time and with the same degree of attention, he might have made himself familiar with the principles of astronomy and geography, with general history, or indeed any other cause of knowledge to which his attention had been judiciously directed. In our humble opinion therefore, the acquisition of that mental cultivation, that fund of knowledge, which ought to form the indispensable qualifications for places of trust, dignity, and emolument, should be separated wholly from the study of any foreign tongue, and conducted in their native language, in which they are continually to transact business, and in which alone they can diffuse just and accurate ideas around them.

Were the means of acquiring mental cultivation thus afforded him in his own tongue, much valuable time would be saved to a youth of talent and enterprize, who tho' possessed of scanty means, might purchase the requisite books, and apply with diligence to his studies at home, as many of them now do to the study of English with little more assistance than what they derive from Dyche's or Dilworth's Spelling-book. This would in its turn create a new and extensive patronage for works of science and information in the native languages, and soon procure from the native press all those works which are most generally useful. But whether they studied at home or availed themselves of public means of instruction, by far the greater part would be done at their own expense, as has been hitherto the case in their study of the Persian and English languages. The moment it is felt that a cultivated understanding and a well-informed mind, are necessary to their advancement in life, the ex-

pense which the acquisition of these may involve, will be most cheerfully borne by the natives themselves.

In noticing the advantages which might be expected to arise from the adoption of some plan for encouraging mental cultivation among the natives similar to that we have here recommended, it would be wrong wholly to pass over the stimulus which, when it became as much the interest of the natives to meet the expense of such a course of instruction, as it has hitherto been to defray that of tuition in the Persian language, would hereby be given to Native Schools and Seminaries of every description in which knowledge of this nature may form the chief subject of instruction. The encouragement which would thus be given to the cultivation of real knowledge among the natives themselves, would be great; and unlike a foreign language which is useless till a considerable portion be communicated, the knowledge which would be attained in great perfection by the ablest among them, would be obtained in a less degree by multitudes, and by these be spread more and more widely, until sound and useful ideas, like a gentle and fertilizing stream, would gradually diffuse themselves far and wide throughout the country.

The benefit which the public service and the country at large would receive from the introduction into offices of trust and emolument of men of enlarged minds and of thorough information, would by no means be inconsiderable. The service they would render would be far more acceptable to their superiors, and far more advantageous to the general interests of the community, than that of men void of knowledge; and the talents and ability they would individually possess, being brought fully into operation, would materially contribute to the efficiency of the public administration of affairs. The advantage of having enlightened men to execute the wishes of government, and to stand forth as the subordinate representatives of the ruling power among their own countrymen, would be quickly visible in the augmentation of the general happiness. Although knowledge is neither probity, nor virtue of any kind, (it is more nearly allied to virtue than is ignorance. A man's ignorance by no means diminishes his enmity, or his rapacity; it rather tends to augment these sordid feelings. Having no taste for any gratification of a mental nature, all the powers of his soul are impressed into the service of these baneful habits; while the gross ignorance which envelopes his mind, blinds him to the turpitude of the measures he may employ in their gratification, and renders him insensible to the public obloquy with which they may cover him. On the other hand, those who have raised themselves by their superior knowledge and merit, are likely to feel that they have a character to sustain, and to regard it as their interest to render those beneath them content and happy. Doubtless many of the Roman governors co-temporary with Cicero and Cæsar, and of those in the Augustan age, were men by no means blameless in their administration of the provinces committed to their care, notwithstanding the taste and polish which their minds must have received from their education at Rome. Yet compare these with the Turkish governors who have pillaged the provinces of Greece and Asia Minor for these three centuries past; and compare the present state of these provinces with their state under Galio, and other Roman governors, whose hands might not be perfectly clean; and we shall be at once struck with the immense difference as to public happiness between the administration of men of cultivated minds and that of men sunk in the grossest ignorance, even when we allow them both to be under the influence of selfishness, rather than governed by principles of strict virtue.

The improvements which the benevolent views of government might lead them from time to time to introduce among their Indian subjects, would also be far better understood by natives of enlightened and cultivated minds, than by individuals hardened in prejudice and ignorance and filled with a blind reverence for the most absurd errors and practices which happened to have been held by their ancestors. Hence the assistance they could render in the introduction of what government knew to be real improvements, would be great indeed. Of this we have an undeniable proof already. Of what astonishing value to the promotion of knowledge among the natives have the services and influence of the few enlightened native gentlemen now in Calcutta been in conciliating the minds of their countrymen towards the plans of improvement proposed to them! With the aid of a multitude of such men filling the various departments of the public service, and distributed in every part of the country, what advantages to their countrymen at large may not be anticipated from a government more truly parental in its feelings than any India has ever known in the thousands of years which have elapsed since she was first peopled. By a succession of such enlightened natives, the whole economy of their countrymen could be brought into view, the peculiar distresses of their situation be accurately ascertained; and remedies might be suggested by those who would possess the greatest opportunities of carrying them into effect.

The permanence which would thus be communicated to the establishment of sound knowledge throughout India, should by no means be overlooked. The Persian language has thus been established in India, and still remains, although the dynasty which introduced it has in the course of providence given place to one which has it in its power to im-

part unspeakably greater blessings. Sound knowledge however, is in its nature more fitted to diffuse itself in a country in which it is dis-encouraged, than any foreign language. When communicated in the current language of the country, it naturally and almost insensibly makes its way through all ranks of society down to the very lowest. And in this case, when men of the greatest public influence owe their elevation, their dignity and wealth, to their proficiency in real knowledge, mental acquisition would naturally appear valuable not only to themselves to whom it had rendered such important services, but to all those who were anxious to obtain the same honour and distinction. This would gradually give rise to a kind of aristocracy the most proper in its nature, that of superior mind, of knowledge and information, an aristocracy, which, while it would be accessible to all who chose to be at the expense of the application and study from which it would spring, would be able by its superior ability to silence and confound all the ignorant who might declare themselves its opposers.

Nor would the effect end with those who filled offices of trust and dignity. It is from those who hold public situations under government that the number of opulent families is continually replenished and enlarged. These as they retire from business with competent fortunes, take their stations among the rich and noble of their own country. In a few years therefore, we might behold among the body of rich natives who reside in the different parts of the country, men of the most cultivated understandings, the most thorough friends of learning and improvement, who having obtained all their wealth and respectability through the cultivation of sound knowledge, would naturally feel it endeared to them by a thousand pleasing recollections. And should the time ever come when the number of the rich among the natives who cordially love knowledge, and delight in its extension (an almost natural consequence when this alone could give due value to their own acquisitions,) had grown considerable, the effect on the general diffusion of knowledge throughout the country, must be of the most happy nature. The sum they now often expend in a pooja, a wedding, or a funeral, to which the grand motive is, the hope of acquiring distinction, amounting as it often does to lacks of rupees on one occasion, would serve to enlighten a whole district for ages.

The effect of such system steadily pursued, on the general improvement of society, would be far from being contemptible. We are taught by the experience of all ages that learning and cultivation of mind have seldom ascended from the lower ranks in life to the higher classes; but that on the contrary they have almost universally descended from the higher classes to those in a lower situation. The illumination of a considerable number among those necessarily dependent on others above themselves, could scarcely be expected to introduce a higher tone of sentiment and greater degree of cultivation among those who regard themselves as their superiors, and look down on them with contempt; whereas the illumination of even a small number of individuals among the higher classes, will tend to diffuse very widely a thirst for knowledge among those immediately beneath them. This was the case among the Romans. It was the Scipios, and men of their rank, who introduced the taste for knowledge among the Romans in the beginning; and Cicerio and Cæsar, and men of consular dignity, were its chief supporters in the succeeding ages. In England too, those who cultivated or encouraged literature in the reign of Henry the Eighth, were not in general among the lowest classes in life. It was Dean Colet, Cardinal Wolsey, the Earl of Surrey, the king's brother-in-law Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, Cromwell, Cranmer, Sir John Cheke, and others of rank in Henry's time who stood forward as the encouragers of learning to which indeed some of them owed their advancement. And in the reign of his daughter Elizabeth, Lord Buckhurst, Leicester, Sir Philip Sidney, the Earl of Essex, and a multitude of others were among those who gave that tone to English literature, which it has ever since retained. Nor even in the reign of Anne our latest literary era, did circumstances greatly differ. Lord Halifax, the Earl of Dorset, Lord Somers, and Addison, whose literature procured him the office of Secretary of State, together with Bolingbroke, Atterbury, and Pope, were among those who encouraged that general diffusion of knowledge, which has not stopped in its progress to the present day.

It has indeed ever been found necessary to the wide and effectual diffusion of knowledge, that a number of individuals possessing dignity and influence, either hereditary, or obtained as the reward of their own merit, should diffuse an attachment to learning to the utmost verge of their influence, as the means of awakening the minds of those below to a consideration of its value. As in the human body after a long suspension of animation, the extremities are the last to receive life and heat and vigor, so in civil society the lowest members of the community, are often the last to be affected by the progress of knowledge and civilization. In holding out inducements of this nature through the medium of places of trust and emolument, therefore, the extension of knowledge among the inferior classes of the community is provided for in the most effectual manner. The aid of the wealthy and the powerful, though often essential to introduction of knowledge, is necessary to its rapid dif-

fusion. How long a period Bengal alone would require for the diffusion of knowledge through its remotest parts, were the whole left to the efforts of a few solitary Europeans, it is not easy to say; but if the local patronage, the influence and assistance of the powerful and the wealthy among the natives, can be engaged in this important work, it will be facilitated in a degree of which we at present perhaps have scarcely an adequate conception.

Of the truth of this fact a proof is furnished of the most recent nature in the success which has attended the efforts of Bell and Lancaster. While it will be acknowledged that these men possessed the means of giving an extraordinary impulse to the public mind on the subject of education, still had they not experienced that degree of support with which they have been favoured by the rich and great in our native land, we should have witnessed but little real progress in general education. What could the utmost zeal of Bell or Lancaster have effected in England in the reign of Edward the Fourth, or of Henry the Seventh, when ignorance had scarcely begun to forsake the highest classes of society? They might it is true, have established one or two schools, and might have superintended a small circle with some degree of effect: but here their efforts must have terminated. That astonishing impetus which they have been the means of imparting to the progress of knowledge throughout the kingdom, must in justice be attributed to the liberal and enlightened manner in which the rich and the great came forward in the cause of general knowledge, and even the Royal family themselves. The value of our late beloved Monarch's example in that steady support which he uniformly extended to Lancaster's plans, in seasons when, but for such support, they must have fallen to the ground, ought to endear his memory to the latest posterity. What then shall prevent us from indulging the hope, that in India in a cause of precisely the same nature, and in which the only difference is, the greater necessity which exists for exertion here, the aid of the wealthy and the powerful will in some way be enjoyed as it has been in Britain, if attempts be made to raise knowledge and mental cultivation to that degree of esteem among the native servants of government, and hence among the great body of the native gentry and nobility, which they so richly deserve?

On this liberal policy did the Romans act towards all the countries they conquered; and as no two nations have ever borne a stronger resemblance to each other in the magnificence and extent of their foreign conquests, and the wisdom and moderation with which these conquests have been governed, it may not be wholly foreign to our purpose if we glance at the economy and conduct of that mighty nation, relative to her tributary provinces. That magnanimous people boldly threw open to the countries and provinces they subdued, the stores of their own literature; and deemed the extension of knowledge, and civilization among the barbarians they subdued, the greatest safeguard of the integrity of their empire. They did more; if the conquered nations did not possess a language familiarized to the conveyance of knowledge, they imparted to them their own; they established seminaries of education; they lent the authority of the state to the progress of knowledge; and as the most powerful stimulus they could apply, they opened the inferior office of their public service to the ardent efforts of their native subjects even in the most distant provinces. The consequence was, a rapid improvement in the state of society, and the introduction of civilization among the rudest nations. Education and study insensibly inspired the natives of these countries with the same love of knowledge, and enabled Rome to impart manners and feelings to her most distant provinces, as well as laws; and Spain alone produced Lucan, Seneca, Columella, Martial, and Quintilian.

This communication to her subject provinces of her knowledge, her literature, and even her language, never alienated their minds for her government; never caused Rome to lose a foot of her foreign conquests. Some weak minds have felt unwillingly to impart knowledge to our Indian subjects, lest it should ultimately lead to the loss of our empire in India. To all these fears the conduct of the Romans with its results, will furnish the completest answer; and the case will be still more in point if we select Britain as our example, tributary as she was to the Romans for above four hundred years. We surely can have no fear that the infusion of the largest portion of knowledge into our Indian subjects will make them excel in bravery, spirit, and enterprise the inhabitants of Britain, our own immediate ancestors. We know that the conquest of the island of Britain cost the Romans more labour than the whole of Hindoostan has cost Britain; and that more Roman blood was shed in the insurrection of Boadicea, than has yet ever been shed of British blood in India. Yet these islanders were not vastly superior in number to their invaders, while they were divided among themselves. The Romans, too, disciplined to arms for ages, the conquerors of Carthage, Greece, and Macedonia, were commanded by the greatest generals of the age, in the person of Julius Cæsar, who commenced the conquest of Britain, and of Agricola who under Domitian completed it about a hundred years after. This handful of islanders then, cost the best soldiers and the best generals of the most warlike people on earth, a full century to bring them into subjection! Surely if knowledge would have been injurious to the subjection of any nation to their governors, these islanders who had made such a

resistance for so long a series of years to the best troops and the best generals of the most warlike nation on earth, might have been expected when imbued with the knowledge and literature of their conquerors, to take advantage of circumstances and assert their independence. For this they possessed advantages not found in India. Their insular situation, in that early age, could they have freed themselves from the Romans, would have enabled them to defend themselves from all other invaders, and with the exception of Caledonians, far inferior to them in number, they were nearly all united as one nation, while not two of the provinces of India are so united as even to speak precisely the same language.

Farther, the state of the Roman empire was soon such as might have encouraged them to make the attempt. Under the rule of emperors many of whom were a disgrace to human nature, the empire gradually declined in strength, till in the fourth century, a horde of barbarians poured in upon it from the north of Europe, and time after time defeated its best armies. The Britons therefore, had their increasing knowledge led them to this object, might have easily taken advantage of these circumstances to assert their independence, and free themselves from a foreign dominion. But did our ancestors take this course? In the whole of the three centuries which elapsed after the knowledge and literature of their conquerors had begun to be cultivated among them, was there even a single insurrection against the Romans? Was there a single attempt made to expel them from Britain? Nay when the Romans were constrained to withdraw their troops from Britain to defend other parts of the empire, were the Britons willing to part with them? Did they not, time after time, intreat them not to depart, and more than once beseech them to return after they had taken their leave and left them to manage their own affairs?

If such then was the effect of the Romans' communicating their knowledge, their literature, their ideas, and their military discipline to our ancestors, who prior to being thus imbued with knowledge, had manifested the greatest courage in resisting them, there can be no fear that our imparting our knowledge and ideas to the Hindoos should inspire them with a courage they never yet possessed. Surely they are not made of sterner materials than were our ancestors. They have never discovered bravery equal to that which they displayed against the Romans. The battles which have decided the fate of the various provinces of India have been won by a handful of men, engaged against such multitudes as were never assembled in Britain against the largest Roman armies. Now it is not in the nature of knowledge so to change the physical habits of a nation, as to make those brave in whom that disposition is not inherent. It rather disposes men to the peaceful arts of life, and renders them averse to war and commotion. It tends to endear to them even their conquerors, particularly when their conduct is in its own nature worthy. This effect it evidently had even on our warlike forefathers, between whom and their conquerors there never appears to have existed any thing like hatred or animosity, from the time knowledge and literature were introduced, to the very day of their voluntary and highly regretted departure.

Another circumstance perhaps may not be unworthy of notice. It is evident that knowledge produces a certain assimilation of mind and ideas with those by whom it is imparted, which often forms a strong bond of union. Next to that formed by real religion, there is perhaps no union stronger than that formed by the love of knowledge and mental cultivation. And that this would follow in a certain degree from our encouraging the progress of knowledge among the Hindoos, there can be little doubt. And as Bengal would naturally form the seat of knowledge, from its being the chief seat of that government from whom it must emanate, this union would be particularly strong between the English and the natives of Bengal.

Other circumstances would unite with this in making the inhabitants of Bengal in particular as deeply interested in the continuance of the English among them as ever the Britons were in that of the Romans in Britain. One is, the fact already mentioned that Bengal is now the chief seat of government in India, an honor it never enjoyed under the Musulman dynasty, or even under its own native governments. And to the advantages Bengal enjoys from being the centre to which flow all the streams of wealth arising both from agriculture and commerce throughout Hindoostan, the inhabitants will certainly not be blind, when their minds are fully imbued with knowledge. Then, whatever may be the case now, they will be able to appreciate them in the fullest manner. Nor, when their minds are duly impregnated with knowledge, can they avoid being sensible, that these advantages which now contribute so much to wealth and prosperity of Bengal, would be lost for ever the moment the troops of Britain might bid adieu to her shores. Indeed if their minds were duly cultivated, they could not be ignorant that even their superior civilization, accompanied as it would naturally be with abundant affluence, would render them a prey to the more fierce and warlike tribes of Hindoostan, the moment they were deprived of that protection from Britain which has been the source of all the advantages they now so pre-eminently possess. If before the British fixed the seat

of government in Bengal, they were the continual prey of their stronger neighbours in Hindoostan, superior cultivation and the present wealth of Bengal would render it still more an object of cupidity the moment it was deprived of Britain's protecting care. Never had England half the reason to dread the incursions of the Picts and Scots, their more warlike northern neighbours, nor half the reason to beseech the Romans to stay and defend them, as would the inhabitants of Bengal to dread the incursions of their neighbours in Hindoostan, and to beseech Britain to remain as their only protection and safeguard. To all this nothing can make them insensible now, but their extreme ignorance, the want of that knowledge and enlargement of mind which would make them discern their real interests and the circumstances in which they are actually placed. In pouring forth her ample stores of knowledge on Bengal therefore, Britain would be doing the highest service both to them and to herself. The wise and intelligent throughout the country would by degrees feel their wealth, their respectability, their domestic comfort, all identified with the continuance of the British dominion in India; and this would gradually unite to her nearly twenty millions of natives by the strongest ties of self-interest and self-preservation. It would make them feel far more powerfully than did the Britons when they so earnestly intreated the stay of the Romans, that not merely their happiness, but their safety, and even their existence in their present elevated state, are identified with the continuance of the British power in India, and that the day of its withdrawal would seal the doom of Bengal for ever.

Shipping Arrivals.

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Aug. 27	Elizabeth	British	George Vint	Batavia	July 23
28	Hope	British	I. T. G. Flint	Gravesend	May 9
28	Cornelia	British	L. M. Hanze	Pondicherry	Aug. 20

Shipping Departures.

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Aug. 22	Sophia	British	—	Colombo
22	King Geo. the IV.	British	J. W. Clarke	Calcutta
23	Roberts	British	C. H. Bean	Isle of France
24	Mellish	British	R. Ford	London
27	Johanna Maria	Danish	Dantfelt	Calcutta

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 19, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—*THETIS*,—*ERNAAB*, (H. C. S.), outward-bound, remains.—*GEORGE THE FOURTH*, inward-bound, remains.

New Anchorage.—*H. C. Ships PRINCE REGENT, and ASIA*.

Saugor.—*ST. THIAGO MAJOR*, (P.), *HENRY*, (F.), and *KENT*, outward-bound, remain.

The *THALIA* and *GLOBE* arrived at Kidderpore on Thursday.

Military Arrivals and Departures.

Weekly List of Military Arrivals at, and Departures from, the Presidency.

Arrivals.—Major C. J. Doveton, 1st Battalion, 10th Regiment, N. I. from Aurangabad. Captain T. C. Watson, Commandant Fort Marlboro' Local Corps, from Bencoolen. Captain P. L. Pew, of Artillery, from Europe. Lieutenant A. Ramsay, 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment, N. I. from Lucknow. Lieutenant S. Walker, 2d Battalion 4th Regiment, N. I. from Europe. Ensign J. Roxburgh, 1st Battalion 24th Regiment, N. I. from Muttra. Infantry Cadets James Rundell Bigge, James Burnet, William Glen, and Robert Riddell, from Europe. Assistant Surgeons B. Bell, and J. P. Burnett, from Europe.

Departures.—Brevet Captain R. Chalmers, 2d Battalion 2d Regiment Native Infantry, to Lucknow. Ensign A. M. L. Maclean, 2d Battalion 5th Regiment Native Infantry, to Secrota. Cornet A. M. Key, 1st Light Cavalry, to Sultanpore Benares. Ensigns W. Hunter, H. Smith, R. Crofton, E. Jackson, G. Byron, J. C. Lumsdaine, H. Lyell, C. R. Eyre and O. B. Thomas, 2d Battalion 10th Regiment Native Infantry, to Berhampore. Ensign W. J. B. Knyvett, 1st Battalion 29th Regiment Native Infantry, to Benares.

Death.

On the 20th instant, Captain J. L. TARVET, late of the Country Service, aged 28 years.

At the Parsonage, Kaira, on the 31st of July, VIBART ROBINSON, the Son of the Rev. SAMUEL PAYNE: aged 4 months.